Serfojee Rajah. 1829

THE

ELLIS CORRESPONDENCE.

2 1468

LETTERS

WRITTEN DURING THE YEARS 1686, 1687, 1688,

AND ADDRESSED TO JOHN ELLIS, ESQ.

SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF HIS MAJESTY'S REVENUE IN IRELAND:

COMPRISING MANY PARTICULARS OF

THE REVOLUTION,

AND ANECDOTES ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE HISTORY AND MANNERS OF THOSE TIMES.

EDITED, FROM THE ORIGINALS, WITH NOTES AND A PREFACE,

BY THE HON. GEORGE AGAR ELLIS.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

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1468

PREFACE.

The Letters which are here offered to the public, are copied from the originals preserved in the British Museum among the Birch Collection of Manuscripts. The Editor was first led to examine them, by seeing some extracts from them, which struck him as both curious and interesting, in the valuable series of letters illustrative of English History, published by Mr. Ellis, Librarian of the Museum. Upon more minute inspection, he was of opinion that the whole correspondence deserved to be rescued from its

obscurity, and given to the world; as containing entertaining contemporary accounts of the actual period of the Revolution, and of the years immediately preceding that event; together with anecdotes of the principal actors in those scenes; and various traits of the manners of the age, which are every day, as the time when they existed becomes more distant, acquiring additional value. It is true the Letters, when they do not relate great events, are frequently filled only with the gossip of the Court and of society,—but it should be remembered, that it is of such small materials that history is very mainly composed.

They are all addressed to John Ellis, Esq. a collateral ancestor of the Editor's, and form a tolerably accurate journal of what was going on in London, from the beginning of January 1686, to the end of December 1688; with the exception of about seven

months, from August 1687, to April 1688, during which period there is an interruption of the correspondence. Whom the letters were written by does not, in far the greater number of instances, appear. The Post was at that time by no means a secure conveyance, and it was therefore natural, especially as both persons and things are sometimes treated in them with considerable freedom, that the writers should have avoided putting their signatures to them. Some few of them are signed: of these a considerable portion were written by Owen Wynne, a civilian, and at that time Under Secretary of State. Others, which are not signed, are endorsed on the back with the name of the writer, who is therefore given as such in the table of Contents prefixed to these volumes. Some are sealed with a seal bearing the Ellis arms upon it, from whence we may infer they were written by some relation of John

Ellis, perhaps by one of his brothers. The greater number seem to have come from persons holding offices under the Government, who sent all the Court news to their brother placeman in Ireland. At the time they were written, John Ellis held the situation of Secretary to the Commissioners of the Public Revenue in Dublin, as we see by the address on most of them. A few were written by his brother Philip Ellis, the Roman Catholic Bishop; and a good many, especially towards the end of the collection, appear to have been what were then called "news-letters," written by persons who indited them for pay, in those days when newspapers were few, ill-supplied with news, and frequently fearful of telling even the little intelligence they, that is to say their Editors, were possessed of.

The notes, which have been added to

the Letters by the Editor, are merely intended to elucidate as shortly as possible obscure passages, and to explain who the numerous personages mentioned in the text were, with occasionally a few words relative to their characters.

1468

14,68.

ACCOUNT

OF

THE FAMILY OF ELLIS.

JOHN ELLIS was descended from an ancient gentleman's family, who traced their possessions in the West-riding of the County of York to the time of the Conquest. The name of their residence was Kiddal Hall.*

* "At Kiddal Hall, in this parish" (Berwick in Elmet) "is still an ancient embayed window with this inscription : Orate pro a'i'bus Thome Elis et Anne uxoris sue qui ista' fenestra' fecerunt An'o D'ni MCCCC.

"From this family, which long after continued at Kiddal, immediately descended Dr. Ellis, Bishop of Kildare, and the late Right Honourable Welbore Ellis."—Whitaker's Loidis and Elmete.

One of the family, Sir Thomas Ellis, was six times Mayor of Doncaster during the reigns of Henry the Eighth, Edward the Sixth, and Queen Mary, and founded St. Thomas's Hospital* in that town.† We also find that in 1503, John Ellis was Sheriff of York.‡ In 1617, Bernard Ellis, Esq. was Recorder of York,§ and in 1709, William Ellis, Esq. was High Sheriff of Yorkshire. All these individuals were descended from the Ellis's of Kiddal.

The father of John Ellis, the Rev. John Ellis, was a younger son of the family, (the

* He also built the Lodge and Market Cross.—See Miller's History of Doncaster.

† Inscription in St. George's Church at Doncaster:

"Here lyeth the body of Thomas Ellis, late of Doncaster, Gentleman and Alderman, six times Mayor of the same, who, for the honour of God, built one Hospital for the Poor, called St. Thomas the Apostle, who dyed July 17, 1562.

"Go thou, and do likewise.—Luke x. 3."

Thoresby, Ducatus Leodiensis.

‡ See Drake's "Eboracum."

§ See Gough's Camden.

elder branch of which is now extinct). He was bred at Cambridge, where he was a Fellow of St. Catherine's Hall. He was subsequently Chaplain to Archbishop Abbot, Lecturer and Preacher at Cambridge, and Rector of the three portions of Waddesdon, in Buckinghamshire, where he died in 1681, aged seventy-five. He was an author of some esteem in his day upon subjects connected with religion. Anthony à Wood gives the names of his different published works: "The sole Path to a sound Peace." "A Sermon preached before the House of Commons, 22d February, 1642," published 1643. "Vindiciæ Catholicæ," London, 1647. "The Pastor and Clerk," London, 1659. "St. Austin imitated, or Retractions," London, 1662; and concludes by calling him "a very pious and learned man."*

* See Athenæ Oxonienses.

It appears by the following extract from Wood, that the Rev. John Ellis was at first, at the commencement of the Civil Wars, an advocate for the Parliament against the King, but afterwards changed his opinion. For this he was violently attacked by Mr. Hickman, a nonconformist minister, in a book with this title, "Apologia pro Ministris in Anglia (vulgo) Nonconformists, an. 1662, Aug. 24, die Bartholomæi dicto, ejectis,* adversus argutiolas putridasque calumnias Durelli, Ellisii, aliorumque." In giving an account of Hickman and his book, Wood enters into the following particulars:

"As for *Ellisius* (*Joh. Ellis*) before-mentioned in the title of *Apologia, &c.* he was sometimes Fellow of *S. Catherine's* Hall in *Cambr.* Proctor of that University, Chaplain to

* The Act of Uniformity, which was then commonly called the Bartholomew Act, obliged every minister to conform to the Church of England before the next St. Bartholomew's day, on pain of losing his ecclesiastical preferments.

Archbishop *Abbot*, Lecturer or Preacher in the town of *Cambridge* before the grand Rebellion began, at what time he was known by the name of *Joh. Ellis junior*. Afterwards he was made one of the rectors of *Waddesdon* in *Bucks*, and at length sole rector of that place, upon his writing and publishing of a book, entitled, *St. Austin imitated*: or, *Retractions*, &c. London, 1662, qu. In which he retracts some part of a sermon which defended the war against the King, preached before the House of Commons, 22d *Feb.* 1642, and soon after published with this title, *The sole Path to a sound Peace*, on *Micah* 5, ver. 5. *Lond.* 1643. qu. As also so much of his Answer, entitled *Vindiciæ Catholicæ*: or, *the rights of particular Churches asserted against Mr. Sam. Hudson, Minister of Capell, in Suffolk, an.* 1647, as concerned the maintaining of the then or since practised Independency. He was look-

ed upon as a very pious and learned man, although our author, Mr. *Hickman*, in his *Apologia pro Ministris*, &c. brands him with that infamous name of Apostate, barely for renouncing some of his former Rebellious and Independent principles upon his return into the bosom of the Church of *England*. But this I would have the Nonconformists know, that before a small piece of his entitled *The Pastor and Clark, &c. Lond.* 1659, in tw., containing a Reply to the Clerk of his Parish, who had drew him forth into a disputation in writing touching Infant Baptism, are prefixed his Thoughts concerning what he then judged erroneous and mistaken, both in his Sermon before-mentioned, and in his *Vindiciæ Catholicæ*, &c. promising moreover in the last paragraph, a larger explication (if it should seem convenient) of that brief *Palinody*. This was done by him purely out of a sincere conviction that he

THE LATE MAHARAJA ...

had been before grossly misguided in some very material and momentous points, and at such a time also, when there was not the least probability or prospect of the happy Restoration; and so not made public only for his own greater lucre and profit, which some Nonconformists have falsely and uncharitably objected against him as the true reason of his change. What he obliged himself here to perform, was soon after very faithfully made good, much to his own credit and reputation, in the *Retractions* that followed. He died very aged, and was buried at *Waddesdon* about the beginning of *Nov.* 1681, whose character and account of his return to the Church of *England* in 1662, you may see in *Jo. Durell's* answer to the Preface of Hickman's Apologia, and in the 19th chapter of his *Vindiciæ S. Eccles.* as also in *Scriver's Actio in Schismaticos*, p. 5, &c. This *Joh. Ellis* was father to *Philip*

Ellis, consecrated a titular Bishop in S. *James's* Chap. within the Liberty of *West.* 6th May, 1688."*

John Ellis the younger, was born in 1645, came to Court shortly after the Restoration, and was one of the many lovers of the Duchess of Cleveland, in which capacity he is mentioned by Pope.† He entered public life as Secretary to Lord Ossory, when he was deputy for his father the Duke of Ormonde, as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He subsequently, as has been before mentioned, became Secretary to the Commissioners of the Irish Revenue, and after the Revolution, was made Comptroller of the Mint, and Under Secretary of State. Towards the end of his life he was a London Magistrate, and died in the year 1738, at the advanced age of ninety-three.

* Athenæ Oxonienses.

† Translation of the Second Satire of the First Book of Horace, in Warton's edition of Pope's Works.

The peculiar circumstances of the Ellis Family at this time were as follows:— The four eldest sons of the Rev. John Ellis* were; first, John Ellis, Under Secretary of State to King William; second, Sir William Ellis, Knight, Secretary to the Duke of Tyrconnell, when Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Following the fortunes of the House of Stuart, he became Secretary of State to King James the Second in his exile; and subsequently Treasurer to his son, the old Pretender. Third, Philip Ellis, who was kidnapped by the Jesuits when at Westminster School, and brought up by them as a Priest of the Roman Catholic religion in their college at St. Omer. He afterwards returned to England, and was in great favour at Court during the reign of

* Bishop Tanner says, "John Ellis, of Waddesdon, had several children, all educated at Westminster School, and eminent."

James the Second. He was consecrated a Titular Bishop of the English Roman Catholic Church, in the Chapel Royal, St. James's, on Sunday, May 6th, 1688. After the Revolution, he was obliged to leave the country; and was made, by the Pope, Bishop of Segni, in the Ecclesiastical State in Italy. Fourth, Welbore Ellis, successively Bishop of Kildare and Meath, in Ireland.

In the Gentleman's Magazine for 1769, is the following article, headed "Anecdotes of the Family of Ellis," in which a more detailed account is given of the various fortunes of the brothers.

"About the year 1730, lived in Piccadilly a Mr. Ellis, Justice of the Peace, the history of whose family (as related by himself to the writer of this) is very remarkable. Being a firm friend to the Revolution, he himself had been Under Secretary of State to King William. His eldest brother, Sir

William Ellis, who had the family estate, following the fortunes of King James, was, at length, made treasurer to his son, the late Pretender, and died at Rome, (a Protestant, however,) about the time above-mentioned. These two brothers kept up no connexion. The third, a Protestant also, was advanced by King William to a bishoprick in Ireland. And the fourth and youngest, Philip, having absconded, when a boy, from Westminster School, was not heard of by his friends for some years; when the brother first named, being at a coffee-house, accidentally overheard an officer, who had just been in Flanders, mention in conversation the great civilities he had received at the English college at St. Omer's, particularly from a most facetious Father, who was distinguished by the name of *Jolly Phil.* This being the name by which he had been known at school, excited Mr. Ellis's curiosity to en-

quire farther; and, in short, the officer being a stranger to his family-name, on the brother's writing to the superior, and if his surmises were true, inviting *Jolly Phil.* to England, the stray sheep was found, and readily came over. Here, under Mr. Ellis's protection, he lived some time in tranquillity, till soon after the Revolution, when, (the penal laws against Papists being strictly enforced,) notwithstanding his brother's caution against making converts, or, when made, relying on them, having perverted his maid-servant, in a few weeks, this pretended convert informed against him. Dreading the consequence, though the Under Secretary, had he known it, could and would have procured his pardon, he immediately fled from England, returned to his college, and in a few years was advanced by the Pope to a bishoprick in Italy. Thus, to recapitulate their fortunes, the eldest of these brothers was trea-

surer to the Pretender; the second, Under Secretary to King William; the third, a Protestant bishop in Ireland; the fourth, a Popish Bishop in Italy. Unless the Irish bishop left children, the family, it is presumed, is now extinct. Any one who knows more particulars, is requested to communicate them.

C——o."*

This statement is correct in the particulars it relates, with the exception of the age of the brothers, as Sir William Ellis was the second, and the Bishop of Meath, the fourth brother. The only one of the brothers who left issue was the Protestant Bishop, whose

* Gentleman's Magazine, vol. 39, page 328. The communication, according to Granger,† was sent to this publication by the Reverend Mr. Duncombe, of Canterbury, whose father received it from John Ellis

† See Granger's Biographical History of England, second edition, vol. 4, page 305.

son was Welbore Ellis, Lord Mendip. In order to give at one view the descent of the family, a Pedigree on a single page, is added at the end of this account.

Philip Ellis, and Sir William, are frequently mentioned in the following Correspondence; also another brother, Samuel, who was a lawyer, and it appears was made Marshal of the King's Bench. The sermons preached by Philip Ellis before James and his Queen, are alluded to in some of the Letters. Of these sermons several have been published. Granger mentions one, with the following title-page. "The first Sermon preached before their Majesties in English, at Windsor, on the first Sunday of October, 1685, by the Rev. Father Dom P. E., Monk of the Holy Order of St. Benedict, and of the English Congregation; published by His Majesty's command, 1686. 4to. Text, Matthew XXII. 37."

f William
Cambridge.
29th April,

5. SAMUEL ELLIS, Marshal of the King's Bench. Temp. Jac. II.

6. CHARLES ELLIS, in Holy Orders.

7. A Daughter, married to the Rev. W. Gawton.

8. A Daughter, married to —— Jones, Esq.

d, George=Anne Ellis, born 26th August, 1707. Obiit 14th April, 1765.=1st Husband, Henry Agar, Esq. (Grandson of Charles Agar, Esq. of the City of York, (whose Ancestors coming originally from the Comté Venaissin, left France during the Wars of Religion) who settled in the County of Kilkenny, Ireland, 1660) of Gowran Castle, M. P. for Gowran, 1727. Obiit 18th Nov. 1746, and was buried at Gowran.
, Esq. of
unty Fer-
. Obiit S.P.

). D.=Jane, dau. of William Benson, of County Down, Esq. Married 22d Nov. 1776. Obiit October, 1826.
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Issue.

HENRY AGAR, in Holy Orders, Rector of Inniscarra, County Cork. Obiit 14th May, 1798.=Mary, daughter of Benjamin Tyrrell, of Oxford, Esq.

Issue.

Diana Agar. Obiit unmarried, at Clifton, near Bristol, July, 1814.

3.
s BAGNALL=Anna Maria Hunt, only daughter of Thomas Hunt, of Llanhydrock, County Cornwall, Esq. and sole heiress of her Great Uncle, Henry (Robartes,) third Earl of Radnor. Married 15th November, 1804.
born 13th
1769. Bar-
t Law. Obiit
ndon, 16th
Buried at
eorge's, Ha-
Square, 23d
1811.

Issue.

4. Emily Anne Agar, born 5th Dec. 1765. Obiit at Roehampton, 23d September, 1821. Buried at Twickenham, Middlesex.

Caroline Anne Agar Ellis, born in London 26th October, 1794. Obiit 12th May, 1814, at Roehampton. Buried at Twickenham, Middlesex.

Harriet Agar Ellis, born in Spring Garden,
March, 1828.

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LETTERS,

&c.

I.

Condemnation of Hampden.—Approaching trial of Lord Delamere.—Bishop of London's popularity.—Bishop of Ely.—Sir Jonathan Trelawney.—Rumours of changes in the law appointments.

London, Jan. 5, 1686.

DEAR SIR,

I HAD yours of the 19th, I suppose, but it bore no date. I hope your Lord Lieutenant* is safely arrived by this time, though

* Henry (Hyde) second Earl of Clarendon, the eldest son of the Chancellor, a man of a narrow and prejudiced mind. He had been appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland early in December 1685. His journey from London to Dublin, of

some of our inspired folks said on Saturday, he was cast away, and he could not be at the water side till Thursday evening. The whole discourse both in city and amongst the under spur-leathers of the Court, that Hampden* is to die on Friday; but he himself has better knowledge of what usage he is like to receive from Court, and I am well informed the warrant that they say was signed for his execution was a reprieve; though in the Recorder's roll of the condemned, his name was crossed amongst the designed for execution. A strong report now goes likewise of a session of Par-

which he has given a detailed itinerary in his published letters, was so slow as to be hardly credible in these days. He left London on the 16th of December, and did not reach Ireland till the 9th of January.

* John Hampden, Esq. grandson of the patriot in Charles the First's time, was tried in 1684, as concerned in the Rye House Plot, and condemned to a fine of 40,000*l*. He joined in Monmouth's rebellion, and was *now* under sentence of death on that account. He saved his life by pleading guilty, and begging for mercy in an abject manner, for which he never forgave himself; but the recollection of it so preyed upon his spirits, that he finally put an end to his existence in 1696.

liament, but those behind the curtain say not. I apprehend Delamere* in much danger; his trial comes on a Thursday next week. The Bishop of London's† fame runs high in the vogue of the people. London pulpits ring strong peals against Popery, and I have lately

* Henry (Booth) second Lord Delamere, and first Earl of Warrington; which title he received from William the Third, for his services in promoting the Revolution. His love of liberty occasioned his being three times imprisoned. Upon the occasion alluded to in the text, he was tried by his peers in Westminster Hall on the 14th of January, for high treason, and unanimously acquitted. The infamous Lord Howard of Escrick, and Ford Lord Grey, were two of the witnesses against him. He died Jan. 2, 1694.

† Henry Compton, youngest son of Spencer second Earl of Northampton, was a cornet of horse at the Restoration; but afterwards entered the Church, and was made successively Bishop of Oxford and London, and Dean of the Chapel Royal, by Charles the Second; who also appointed him preceptor to the Princesses Mary and Anne. His zeal against Popery had displeased James the Second, who upon his accession removed him from the council table, and took away the Deanery of the Chapel Royal. This persecution was the cause of the popularity here alluded to. He was a man of moderate abilities, but a zealous and consistent friend of the Protestant religion. He died at Fulham July 7, 1713, aged eighty-one.

heard there never were such eminently able men to serve in those cures. The Lord Almoner, Ely,* is thought to stand upon too narrow a base now in his Majesty's favour, from a late violent sermon on the 5th of November. I saw him yesterday at the King's levee, and very little notice taken of him; which the more confirms what I heard. Our old friend, the new Bishop, Sir Jonathan,† gave a smart answer to a (no very well put) question of his Majesty with respect to him,

* Francis Turner, Bishop of Ely, who had been translated to that Bishopric from Rochester in 1684. He was one of the seven Bishops sent by James to the Tower: in spite of which, he refused to take the oaths to William and Mary. He was subsequently, as we are informed by Burnet, concerned in a plot to restore the banished King, upon the discovery of which he was obliged to abscond. He died in 1700, leaving behind him a great reputation for integrity, and a small one for talent.

† Sir Jonathan Trelawney, Bart., made Bishop of Bristol in 1685: at the Revolution he became Bishop of Exeter, and subsequently was translated to Winchester. He died in 1721.

He was descended from an ancient Cornish family, and had much influence and popularity in the West of England. In consequence of this, when he was sent to the Tower as

that shows he is not altogether formed of Court clay; but neither you nor I shall withdraw either of our friendship from him on such an account. We have still whispers of new Law-men, Chief Justice, Attorney and Solicitor General; but who succeeds I cannot hear yet, farther than that Allibone* says he will do fine things in a great place. The latter end of next month we are likely to see you. I hear of rare matters putting in order in Scotland, religious houses settled, &c. but more of that hereafter, as I hear the bruit of it. Lemuel Kingdon† is patching up again. Adieu, in haste.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

one of the seven Bishops, a song was composed, of which the burthen was—

"And shall Trelawney die? And shall Trelawney die?
Then thirty thousand Cornish boys will know the reason why!"

* Sir Richard Allibone, of Gray's Inn, a Roman Catholic. He was shortly after this made a judge. He appears to have been a worthy assistant of Jefferies.

† Lemuel Kingdon was one of the Commissioners of the

II.

Mr. Hampden reprieved.—Bishop of London in disgrace.—Dispensation for Roman Catholic Officers.

Jan. 9, 1686.

SIR,

I THANK you for your last letter: I gave the inclosed to Sam,* who is well, and we drank your health to-day at friend Collett's. I suppose it will be no news to tell you that Mr. Hampden is reprieved, and it is believed will be pardoned; or that my Lord Bishop of London is no longer a Privy Counsellor, or Dean of the Chapel, which places the Bishop of Durham† fills. Yesterday, a proclamation was

Revenue in Ireland, and Vice Treasurer of that kingdom. He was now ill, to which the expression of "patching up" alludes, which, however, did not succeed, as he shortly afterwards died. He appears, from the correspondence of Henry Lord Clarendon, to have been a corrupt, rapacious, and imperious man. He was a protégé of Lord Arran's.

* Samuel Ellis.

† Nathaniel Crewe, third son of John first Lord Crewe of Stene. He was made Bishop of Oxford 1671, and of Durham 1674. By the death of his elder brother, Thomas second Lord Crewe, in 1691, he succeeded to the title, and died himself in 1721, at the age of eighty-eight, being the

ordered for the proroguing the Parliament till 10th of May next, and then not to sit unless there be special occasion. This day came into our office a pardon for the Roman Catholic Officers now in the army, of all pains and forfeitures incurred by their holding their commands without taking the test, &c. and a dispensation for them to hold their commands for the future, notwithstanding the acts for the taking the test and oaths of allegiance and supremacy, &c. Lord Delamere comes to his trial on Thursday next, for which a scaffold is preparing in Westminster-hall.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue at the Custom-House in Dublin. Ireland.

last male heir of that branch of his family. He disgraced himself by his time-serving sycophancy to James II., of whose arbitrary measures he was an instrument and promoter. At the Revolution he attempted to fawn upon his brother Bishops, whom he had previously helped to persecute; but they and the new Government equally repulsed and despised him. He lived the remainder of his days in neglect and obscurity; his vanity, at the end of his life, leading him to become a pompous benefactor to different public institutions.

III.

Rumour of the King's journey to Scotland.—Lord Tyrconnell expected.

9th Jan. 1686.

SIR,

I HAVE had no favours from you this fortnight. We think Lord Lieutenant is, ere this, in Ireland, having arrived at Holyhead the 1st, and it will be both a misfortune to our island, and a mortification to all that grew upon it, that his Excellency should be remora'd at such a cold harbour. Hampden is reprieved, and will have his pardon; Lord Delamere comes upon the stage next Thursday at Westminster. The King's journey* into Scotland is uncertain. The next Gazette tells you when we are like to have the Parliament meet. Mr. Carew tells me he knows not how to have his letters come to him; I have writ to him and inclosed his relation's letters every week, and he tells me he hath writ to me as often, though in four

* It does not appear that James ever executed his intention of going to Scotland.

months time I received not above three from him. I am told my Lord Tyrconnell* is to be here this night.

I desire your servant would drop the inclosed to Mr. Gunthorpe.

Mr. Ellis.

(No address upon this letter.)

* Richard Talbot, an Irish Roman Catholic, who had ingratiated himself with James, as the secret confidant of his amours. On his accession, James made him Earl of Tyrconnell, and entrusted to him the new modelling of the army in Ireland, with the title of Lieutenant-General of the forces of that kingdom. He afterwards, upon the recall of Lord Clarendon, whom Tyrconnell by his intrigues had undermined, appointed him Lord Lieutenant. He appears to have been a profligate and corrupt intriguer, and very quarrelsome and violent. He followed the fortunes of James in exile, and was created Duke of Tyrconnell. His wife was the beautiful Jennings of Grammont, sister of Sarah Duchess of Marlborough. Sir William Ellis, his Secretary, is supposed to have been in love with her, and to have been thus led to espouse the Jacobite cause at the Revolution. At this moment Tyrconnell was on his way to London from Ireland.

IV.

Commencement of Lord Arran's illness.—Masked Ball at Lord Devonshire's.—Lord Tyrconnell arrived.

London, Jan. 12, 1686.

My Lord Duke* continues with weak amendment in the gout; and on Saturday night my master† came home in great torture with a pain like a pleurisy and fever upon him: next

* James (Butler) first Duke of Ormonde, whose history is too well known to require to be here dwelt upon. His virtues and merits have been much extolled by partial or hired historians: but if the judgment of posterity and the testimony of his own countrymen are to be relied upon, he cruelly sacrificed the interests of Ireland, to those of his family, and to his own aggrandisement.

† Richard (Butler) Earl of Arran in Ireland, and Baron Butler of Weston in England, so created by Charles the Second. He was the second son of James first Duke of Ormonde. He held many Court offices; and in 1682 was his father's deputy, during his absence from Ireland. He appears to have been a brave soldier, and distinguished himself in a sea-fight against the Dutch, in 1673. He was twice married; first, to Mary, daughter of James Duke of Richmond and Lenox; and, secondly, to Dorothy, daughter of John Ferrers, of Tamworth Castle, Esq. of whom there is mention made in these letters.

morning he was blooded, and yet continued feverish and uneasy all day in bed: yesterday morning a vein was opened again; he slept tolerably well all day and night, and finds himself much more at ease, but yet his fever has not left him nor fainting fits. I intend to watch with him to-night, when others are to partake of the satisfaction to be gathered in a 1000*l.* supper at my Lord Devonshire's * and a masking ball. Count Tyrconnell is come, and kindly received as he can wish; played the devil on the road for horses. The trial comes on on Thursday, of Lord Delamere: eight witnesses against him, and several scurvy circumstances. High alterations talked of more and more:

* William, fourth Earl, and first Duke of Devonshire, whose character has been thus sketched by Lord Orford:—"A patriot among the men, a Corydon among the ladies. His friendship with Lord Russell, his free spirit, his bravery, duels, honours, amours, are well known, and his epitaph will never be forgotten—

Willielmus dux Devoniæ,
Bonorum principum subditus fidelis,
Inimicus et invisus tyrannis."

the first leisure evening you shall have my observations in full. Send to Sir Charles Feilding* this account of my Lord, which I have not time to give him myself. Lemuel is really thought not capable of recovering, having relapsed again.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

V.

Lord Delamere acquitted.

London, Jan. 14, 1686.

DEAR JOHN,

LORD Delamere underwent his trial today, and was unanimously declared guiltless by his Peers, from the attestations of a company of hearsay witnesses, that weigh not with

* Sir Charles Fielding was an officer of the Irish army, and Colonel of the King's regiment of Guards in that kingdom; successively governor of Culmore Fort, Limerick, and Kilmainham. He was third son of George (Fielding) first Earl of Desmond, and grandson of William first Earl of Denbigh.

men of honour. But my poor Lord* is in a more dangerous state, I doubt; for he sinks under the benefits of Nature, as sleeping and sweating. Few apprehend him in so much danger as I do; but my judgment is upon too reasonable a ground, that I am better acquainted with the clogs of sorrow that hang upon his soul than most other people. I am going to spend this night with him. Let Sir Charles Feilding know his case, but as little as may be elsewhere.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

VI.

Lord Delamere's trial.—An Irishman assaults Sir James Hayes.

14th Jan. 1686.

HAD I not been confined both to my bed and chamber for this fortnight by a violent rheumatism, which fell upon my breast

* Lord Arran.

and lungs, you had not failed to have heard constantly from me.

This day the Lord Delamere was brought to his trial at Westminster-hall; but what will be the issue of it, I am afraid I shall not be able to inform you with any certainty till the next post.

The Irishman that with great insolence dragged Sir James Hayes by the cravat the length of the room before the King's bedchamber, because he would not fight him, has made his escape from the Yeoman of the Guard who seized him.

Mr. Fox and Mr. Darcy have been admitted to kiss the King's hand.

(No address on this Letter.)

VII.

Lord Delamere's Trial.

Whitehall, 16th Jan. 1686.

THE chief witness against the Lord Delamere was one Saxton,* a person of a very in-

* Saxton was a common informer. He swore so many things, which were palpably untrue, against Lord Delamere, that the Lords rejected his whole evidence.

famous life, who swore that the Lord Delamere offered him, in the presence of Sir Robert Cotton and Mr. Offley,* 11*l.* towards the carrying on an insurrection in Cheshire: which being disproved by several witnesses, and what the Lord Grey † and Lord Howard ‡ deposed, being only discourse upon hearsay, the Lords, which

* Sir Robert Cotton and Mr. Offley were both Cheshire gentlemen, who were concerned with Lord Delamere in his struggles for the cause of liberty.

† Ford Lord Grey, of whom the infamous memory has descended to the present time, was general of the horse to the Duke of Monmouth. At the battle of Sedgmoor he ran away at the first charge. Being afterwards taken, he bought his pardon, by giving 16,000*l.* to Lord Rochester, and bribes to other persons, and by consenting to become a witness against his companions. He was employed in this capacity at the trials of Lord Brandon, Mr. Hampden, Lord Delamere, &c. King William created him Earl of Tankerville, and made him Lord Privy Seal. He died 1701. There are extant three small volumes, entitled "Love Letters from a Nobleman to his Sister," which are supposed to have been those written by Lord Grey to his sister-in-law, Lady Henrietta Berkeley, with whom he intrigued.

‡ William third Lord Howard of Escrick, the fit companion of Lord Grey, and the suborned witness against Lord Russell, Algernon Sydney, Mr. Hampden, &c. He died in 1694.

were twenty-seven in number, unanimously acquitted him of the high treason whereof he was accused.

(No address on this letter.)

VIII.

Lord Delamere's defence.—Saxton ordered to be prosecuted for perjury.

16th Jan. 1686.

On Thursday Lord Delamere came to his trial in Westminster-hall before his Peers, who were twenty-six in all, and they unanimously acquitted him. The evidence against him were very many, and the circumstances very numerous and presumptive; yet there happened to be but one positive witness (and he a very suspicious one), whose testimony was invalidated by a cloud of others, for the Lord; who made a very notable defence, and being well skilled in our laws, and withal a good spokesman, gave all the advantage to his cause, and good entertainment to his auditors. It is said the King

hath already ordered that evidence (called Saxton) to be tried for perjury, and when he hath got his reward for that, to be sent into the West to be tried for high treason, as having been in the Rebellion. This fellow also was the chief, if not only evidence against Sir Robert Cotton and Mr. Offley, upon whose testimony the bills of high misdemeanour were found against them at Chester. Pray order somebody to search in the Office of Claims there, for that of one John Levet, son of —— Levet, of Waterford, entered in 1660, 61, or 62, and get me an extract of what is entered.

(No address on this letter.)

IX.

Lord Tyrconnell expected to return to Ireland.—Arrival of Marshal Schomberg.—Lord Ossory.—Father Petre.—Philip Ellis.—Expected changes in Public Offices.

London, Jan. 18th, 1686.

I SUPPOSE, some time before this, the Castle family are convinced what is coming, and

that his new Excellence* will not be many days after this with you, if not in with the same tide. I know not what sort of instructions he carries, but most matters will appear in a short time. As to the army, Wentworth, Harman, Ford, Flower and Gilbert, bear their part, and no doubt other regiments in proportion: his Excellence was so free with Lord Blessington,† to tell him his troop was disposed of, because he disobeyed his orders. I find no great certainty of the Privy Seal's being taken away from Lord Clarendon, though more and more I begin to suspect every discourse like that, which is a secret whispered to every body. The Prince de Croy arrived last night from Holland, and Marshal Shomberg‡ with his weather-beaten

* Lord Tyrconnell. He did not return to Ireland till the summer of this year.

† Murrough (Boyle) Viscount Blessington, so created 1673. He was the son of Boyle, Archbishop of Armagh.

‡ Frederic Schomberg, Marshal of France, and Duke of Schomberg in England, so created by William the Third. He commenced his military career in the service of Holland, and afterwards passed into that of France, where he greatly

spouse from Portsmouth by land, the wind being cross at sea. We expect a public entry from Mr. Dadaw,* the Pope's agent. I guess at a Parliament on your side: let us know how matters are to go, and with the Christ Churchmen too. Lord Ossory† keeps at home indulg-

distinguished himself. He was a Calvinist in religion, and was in consequence obliged to leave France, upon the revocation of the edict of Nantes, which was the cause of his present journey to England. He subsequently attached himself to the Prince of Orange; came with him to England in 1688, and was killed at the battle of the Boyne, at the age of eighty-four. His "weather-beaten spouse" was Susanna, daughter of the French Count d'Aumale d'Harcourt, who was his second wife.

* Dada was sent as Nuntio to this country by Innocent the Eleventh (Odescalchi), in return for the magnificent embassy of Lord Castlemaine to Rome. Burnet says of Dada, that "he was highly civil in all his deportment, but it did not appear he was a man of any great depth."

† James (Butler) second Duke of Ormonde, grandson of the first Duke. He joined in the Revolution, and was much employed by William, and afterwards by Anne. On the accession of George the First, he was impeached by the House of Commons for high treason; and not choosing to stand his trial, he fled to the Pretender, and his estate and titles were forfeited by an act of attainder. He died at Madrid, November 16th, 1745, at the great age of ninety-four. It is of him and of

ing his spouse;* sick again of great belly. I am still gaping for the bread, his Majesty says I shall have, and grow hungry. I wish your expectations stronger, but assure yourself, your old friends cannot help you, and Peters† overshoots the Monke‡ so far that they cannot get

his extraordinary politeness, that the story is told, that, when he was dying, finding his agony approaching and fearful he should shock the friends who stood round his bedside by making faces, his last words were, "Messieurs, j'espère que vous excuserez la grimace!" He appears to have been a brave soldier, and a magnificent and generous nobleman, but not a man of any talent.

* Mary Somerset, eldest daughter of Henry first Duke of Beaufort, second wife to the Duke of Ormonde. She was now with child of her only son Thomas, born 26th September, 1686, and died 27th February, 1689. It is to her that Dryden addressed the beautiful dedication of his fable of "Palamon and Arcite."

† Father Edward Petre, the Jesuit, who was much in the King's confidence. He was descended from the noble family of Petre. In 1688, James made him a Privy Counsellor. He was, says Burnet, "a man of no learning, nor any way famed for his virtue, but who made all up in boldness and zeal." He is supposed by his rash and violent counsels to have done great harm to the cause of his master.

‡ Philip Ellis, of whom mention has been made in the Preface. He was now coming into favour at Court. Being

one in a eleven. We shall have a new Chancellor, I promise myself, though I cannot guess who it should be, except Hallifax.* Lord Preston's† warrant will be in commission speedily, and the Ordnance for aught I see.

(No address on this letter.)

a Benedictine Monk, he was probably no friend to Petre and the Jesuits.

* George (Savile) Marquis of Halifax, one of the most considerable statesmen for talent, of the age he lived in; but so unsteady and unprincipled, "that no side trusted him." (Burnet.) The Chancellorship was now vacant by the death of Lord Guilford. Jefferies obtained the office.

† Sir Richard Graham, Bart. of Netherby, created Viscount Preston in Scotland, 1681. He was for some years Ambassador at the Court of France, from which situation he was lately returned, and had been elected M. P. for the county of Cumberland, and made, to use Burnet's expression, "Manager of the House of Commons." At the moment of his abdication, James, who had previously made him Secretary of State, created him a peer of England, by the title of Baron of Esk. Lord Preston claimed his seat in the House of Lords accordingly; but that noble body ordered him into custody, and directed that he should be prosecuted for a misdemeanour. Upon his humbly begging pardon, he was, however, released. In 1689, he was tried at the Old Bailey for high treason, and found guilty, but subsequently pardoned, with the forfeiture, however, of his estate, and of his English

X.

Lord Delamere kisses the King's hand.—Suppression of seditious Newspapers.—Mrs. Sedley and Sir Henry Waldegrave's Peerages.

Whitehall, 19th January, 1686.

DEAR SIR,

I AM still in your debt for your favour of the 4th of the last month, for which I give you my hearty thanks, and for the good opinion you have of me, which I shall always endeavour to preserve.

My Lord Delamere was admitted last Saturday to kiss the King's hand, when his Majesty was pleased to give him warning as to his future behaviour. The Gazette tells you of the orders already given for the proceeding against Saxton for perjury. We are told that when that dance is over, he is like to be tried for treason, having been one of Monmouth's warriors.

title of Baronet. He retired to Nunnington, in Yorkshire, where he died, December 22d, 1695. By his wife, Anne Howard, daughter of Charles first Earl of Carlisle, he left a son, Edward second Viscount Preston.

The King has shown a great concern at the false reports spread abroad of *Quo Warrantoes* being out against Cathedral churches and the like; and in order to prevent the ill consequences of such like false reports, all possible care is taking for the suppressing of all seditious newspapers or letters, commonly read in coffee-houses, and sent about to poison the country.

Mrs. Sedley* is making Countess of Dor-

* Catherine Sedley, Countess of Dorchester, so created for her life, was one of the mistresses of James the Second. She was a coarse, vulgar woman, with some humour, of which Walpole mentions more than one instance. After the Revolution she married Sir David Colyear, created Earl of Portmore. Her father, Sir Charles Sedley, whose talents and profligacy are well known, was a supporter of the Revolution, and defended his conduct by the following reasoning:—"His Majesty having made my daughter a Countess, it is but fit I should do all I can to make his daughter a Queen!" Lady Dorchester had a daughter acknowledged as the King's, and called Lady Catherine Darnley; but who, if we may believe tradition, was really the daughter of Colonel Graham. She was married first to Lord Anglesey, and secondly to the Duke of Buckinghamshire. She was separated from Lord Anglesey by Act of Parliament, for his ill-treatment of her.

chester, and Sir Henry Walgrave* (married to Mrs. Churchill's† daughter) a Baron of his

At Mulgrave Castle, in Yorkshire, the seat of Lord Mulgrave, (who is descended from her only daughter by Lord Anglesey) is a curious portrait of her. She is represented in widow's weeds for the loss of Lord Anglesey, and upon the picture are the following lines in gold letters:—

"Puisque le Comte d'Anglesey mourut sans remords,
J'avoue que mon deuil n'est qu'en dehors."

* Sir Henry Waldegrave, Bart. ancestor of the present noble family of that name, was created Baron Waldegrave, of Chewton, in Somersetshire, January 20th, 1686; in consequence of his having married Henrietta, natural daughter of James the Second, by Mrs. Arabella Churchill. At the Revolution he retired into France, and died at Paris in 1689.

† Arabella Churchill, mistress to James while Duke of York, was daughter of Sir Winston Churchill, and sister of the great Duke of Marlborough. She is described in Grammont's Memoirs, as very ugly; where also the commencement of her intimacy with James, as well as the cause of it, are related. She was mother by him of four children,—the celebrated James Fitz-James, Duke of Berwick; Henry Fitz-James, commonly called the Grand Prior, and created by his father, after his abdication, Duke of Albemarle; Henrietta, wife of Lord Waldegrave; and another daughter, a nun. Arabella Churchill afterwards married Colonel Charles Godfrey, Master of the Jewel Office; and died at Bath, February 23d, 1714.

own name. I pray your protection to the inclosed, and that you will believe me to be, as I am with great truth,

Dear Sir,

Your most humble

And most obedient servant,

SAM. DE PAZ.

Mr. Ellis.

XI.

Burning of Montagu House.—Mr. Harbord summoned.

Whitehall, 21st Jan. 1686.

On Wednesday, at one in the morning, a sad fire happened at Mountague House,* in Bloomsbury, occasioned by the steward airing some hangings, &c. in expectation of my Lord

* This calamity is thus recorded by Evelyn, in his Diary:—"Jan. 19, 1686. This night was burnt to the ground my Lord Mountague's palace in Bloomsbury, than which, for painting and furniture, there was nothing more glorious in England. This happened by the negligence of a servant, airing, as they call it, some of the goods by the fire." It was built by Ralph, Duke of Montagu, when Mr. Montagu, during the lifetime of his father, in 1676. Evelyn says it was de-

Mountague's* return home, and sending afterwards a woman to see that the fire-pans with charcoal were removed, which she told him she had done, though she never came there. The loss that my Lord Mountague has sustained by this accident is estimated at 40,000*l.*, besides 6,000*l.* in plate; and my Lord Devonshire's† loss in pictures, hangings, and other furniture, is very considerable.

The Earl of Arran is very dangerously ill.

signed "by Mr. Hooke, of the Royal Society, after the French manner." The Duke of Montagu afterwards rebuilt the house, with the money he got by his second wife, the widow of Christopher Duke of Albemarle; which latter edifice is now the British Museum.

* Ralph Montagu, third Lord Montagu of Boughton, created in 1689 Viscount Monthermer and Earl of Montagu, and in 1705, Marquis of Monthermer and Duke of Montagu. He was long Ambassador at Paris, and managed, by dint of intrigues, to be in favour at Court under various sovereigns. He died March 9, 1709. See a curious account of his magnificent way of life at his country seat, in Le Vassor, "Histoire de Louis treize."

† I cannot discover any connexion, except that of friendship, which should have occasioned Lord Devonshire's "moveables" to be placed in Montagu House.

A Privy Seal is sent to Mr. William Harbord,* commanding him to appear within fourteen days before some of his Majesty's Privy Council, upon his allegiance.

Mr. Ettrick and I remembered you the other day, at the Temple, very kindly.

(No address.)

XII.

Detailed account of Lord Arran's illness.

London, Jan. 23d, 1686.

I HAD your's this morning, and thank you for the whole occurrences in it. Ill as I was, I made myself be carried to my poor Lord on Thursday evening, where I found him in a sad state of weakness, though his senses entire. He then received the sacrament of Dr. Teni-

* William Harbord was the son of Sir Charles Harbord, of Gunton in Norfolk, who is described by Burnet as "a very rich and covetous old man." William took a part in the debates of those times in the House of Commons, on the side opposed to the Court. He died in 1692, on his way to Constantinople, having been appointed Ambassador to that Court. He was the ancestor of the Lords Suffield.

son,* and discoursed before with him on the points of religion, with that quickness and depth of reason that amazed him. After, he talked with his father of his private affairs, and then with us about him, with an equality of temper that was worthy of his courage. The fever returned at night, and yesterday left him weaker, when I saw him, and still in the same ease and evenness of mind, though galled with all the vexatious applications the folly of physicians has made customary. Last night, the fever returned, and took away his senses, as he yet continues with very short intermissions. I expect every hour the sorrowful call to see his eyes closed, which, God knows, is a hard pressure upon my affection and interest. The good old gentleman † is struck to the very

* Thomas Tenison, afterwards Bishop of Lincoln and Archbishop of Canterbury. He appears to have been a man of some ability, and of much activity and diligence in performing the duties of his profession. Perhaps, like his friend Burnet, he was rather too much of a politician for a churchman, which led him into the indecorous vote he gave in the House of Lords, in favour of the Bill of Pains and Penalties against Sir John Fenwick. He died at Lambeth, December 14, 1715.

† The Duke of Ormonde.

brink of the grave with it, being unable to speak, but with eyes brimfull as his heart. This is the fifteenth day of his fever. Adieu, dear John; I can say nothing of other matter, being too full with this.

I sent your's to your brother.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

XIII.

Saxton's evidence, and intended trial for perjury.—Prance's accusation of Vernatt.

23d Jan. 1686.

THIS morning we had your favour of the 12th, with the good news of my Lord-Lieutenant's safe arrival after the remora his Excellency met with in my unkind country.* This day our term began: Sir Robert Cotton and Mr. Offley, that were upon bail upon the evidence of Saxton, were discharged, and he was arraigned for perjury, and will be tried the

* Wales.

8th February. He would have owned the indictment as to the time, but he persists in it that he received eleven guineas and five pounds from the Lord Delamere and the other two gentlemen. Vernatt, mentioned by Prance in his narrative to be concerned in Sir Edm. B. Godfrey's murder,* and outlawed upon that account, puts himself upon his trial, and has a writ of error granted him to reverse the outlawry; and most men think that Prance will take his turn to scamper away, if not prevented.

Mr. Ellis.

XIV.

Sir Gilbert Gerard's approaching trial.—Vernatt admitted to bail.

Whitehall, 23d Jan. 1686.

THIS day being the first of the term, Sir Robert Cotton and Mr. Offley were finally dis-

* Which happened in 1678. Miles Prance was a goldsmith; and had been the principal witness respecting the murder of Sir E. B. Godfrey. Three persons suffered death upon his evidence. He was now tried for perjury, and condemned to be whipped, thrice pilloried, and to pay a fine of one hundred pounds.

charged of the indictment of high treason, preferred against them for an insurrection in Cheshire.

Sir Gilbert Gerard* is to be tried on Monday fortnight, for high misdemeanours; and Saxton the same day for his late perjury, to which he first pleaded not guilty, but afterwards would have pleaded guilty, which the Court refused to admit.

One Philibert Vernatt, being outlawed for the murder of Sir E. B. Godfrey, produced a writ of error against the outlawry, upon which it was reversed, and he afterwards pleading not guilty to the indictment, was admitted to bail.

The Earl of Tyrconnel is returned hither.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners for Management of the Revenue of Ireland.

Fran. Benson. Dublin.

* Sir Gilbert Gerard was first cousin of Charles Gerard, first Earl of Macclesfield. He was created a Baronet by Charles II.

XV.

Lady Dorchester to go to France.—Mr. Hampden's pardon.—Death of Lord Arran.

Whitehall, 26th Jan. 1686.

A WARRANT is sent to Exeter to the Commander-in-chief there, to send up Parson Vincent, with a party of dragoons, he having been lately taken with six other rebels in arms, within twelve miles of that place.

It is said, that the new Countess of Dorchester, notwithstanding her late honour, is to go into France.

His Majesty has granted his pardon to Mr. Hambden for all treasons and misdemeanours committed by him, as well against himself, as his late Majesty, and of all fines and forfeitures incurred by reason thereof.

Yesterday, the Earl of Arran died, and is to be interred in Westminster Abbey.

(No Address.)

XVI.

Account of Lord Arran's Death.

London, Jan. 26th, 1686.

I HAD yours of the 15th yesterday, that contained the list of the Sheriffs. If you had mine of the 23rd, this will be the less surprising, for I was for many months too unhappily a true judge of my poor Lord's* temper, for yesterday morning, between eight and nine, he left a mournful number of servants, and this life for a better. I judged that ever since Thursday he had visibly the pangs of death upon him, though the forceable cordials kept him alive; but it was to die in the more tormenting agonies, for it was one of his last doleful expressions upon a fit of convulsions, that the cordials were too strong for him, "Good Lord, what can death be, if this is not it? Can none of the doctors give me ease? sure they can others in the like extremities." He died

* Lord Arran.

sensible, though, when the severity of pain was upon him, disjointed words came from him. You may well think how heavily my Lord Duke takes the being deprived of this staff of his age, for during a great part of this time he has never been known to eat and sleep so little, sit so pensive, fetch such deep sighs, and look so set and stern. My load of sorrow, and weakness of body, disables me from saying any thing more.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

XVII.

Lord Arran's regiment and government given away.—Departure of Lord Castlemaine and Sir William Soames.—Sir Philip Howard delayed, &c.

30th January, 1686.

The last from you is of the 12th. Earl of Arran's regiment is given my Lord of Ossory, and that which was my Lord's to the Earl of

Ardglasse;* and the office of the Government to the Lord Tyrconnell. Duke of Ormond comes abroad; nor do I hear any thing certain of his Grace retiring. Mrs. Sedley, now Countess of Dorchester, was led to move her sejour from Court to St. James's Square, and it is commonly said, she will begone yet farther off, either to France, Flanders, or Scotland. Earl of Castlemaine† sets out next Thursday for Rome; and Sir William Soames,‡ after six weeks embargo, by cross winds in the Downs, is at last sailed towards Constantinople, though a remora of another kind (the clamours of his

* Vere Essex (Cromwell), seventh Lord Cromwell of Wimbledon, and fourth Earl of Ardglasse in Ireland. He died November 26th, 1687.

† Roger Palmer, created Earl of Castlemaine, in Ireland, by Charles the Second. "Best known," observes Walpole, "by having been the husband of the Duchess of Cleveland, and by being sent Ambassador from James the Second to the Pope, who treated him with as little ceremony as his wife had done."

‡ Sir William Soames had lately been appointed Ambassador to Constantinople, in which post he died during the summer of this year.

creditors) keeps Sir Philip Howard* from making towards his Government of Jamaica. We had this day an excellent sermon from my Lord Bishop of Kildare.†

Pray send this by your boy to Mr. Gunthorp.

Mr. Ellis.

XVIII.

Duke of Grafton's Duel.—Lord Chancellor ill.

Whitehall, 2d February, 1686.

THIS morning a duel was fought in Chelsey Fields, between the Duke of Grafton‡ and

* Sir Philip Howard was third son of Sir William Howard, of Naworth Castle, in Cumberland, and brother of Charles first Earl of Carlisle.

† William Moreton, Dean of Christchurch, Dublin, and Bishop of Kildare, 1681. Translated to Meath, 1705. Died 1715.

‡ Henry Fitzroy, second natural son of Charles the Second, by the Duchess of Cleveland. Created by his father in 1672, Earl of Euston, Viscount Ipswich, and Baron of Sudbury; and in 1675, Duke of Grafton. In 1680, he was made a Knight of the Garter, and in 1682, Vice-Admiral of England. At the Revolution he joined the Prince of Orange.

Mr. Talbot,* brother to the Earl of Shrewsbury, occasioned by very provoking words given last night by the latter, in which he happened to be mortally wounded, and died upon the place.

The Lord Chancellor† continues very ill of the stone, and is likewise much troubled with a vomiting.

He was born September 20th, 1663, and was killed, leading the assault at the siege of Cork, September 28th, 1690. He appears to have been a brave and successful naval officer—but his conduct through life was wild and unsettled.

* The Honourable John Talbot, second son of Francis eleventh Earl of Shrewsbury, and of his wife, the infamous Anna Maria Brudeneil, whose amours with George Villiers, second Duke of Buckingham, are well known. John Talbot wanted a few days of being of age, when he thus met his death. His only brother was Charles twelfth Earl of Shrewsbury—created Duke of the same by King William.

† George Lord Jefferies, Baron of Wem, in Shropshire, so created by James the Second immediately after his accession, and soon afterwards made Chancellor. His bloody and illegal proceedings as a judge have "damned him to everlasting fame." In private life he was dissolute and drunken, which naturally injured his health. He died in the Tower, April 18th, 1689, having previously at his apprehension been ill-treated by the mob; which, joined to the effects of intemperance and vexation, caused his death.

The new Countess of Dorchester is removed from Whitehall to her house in St. James's-Square.

XIX.

The writer's grief for Lord Arran,—not participated in by his Widow, &c.

London, Candlemas Day,
February 2d, 1686.

DEAR JACK,

I HAD yours of the 21st and 24th yesterday; and doubt not before this you have the doleful news of my dear Lord's death. I know not what way to go about repairing my loss, or stemming the tide of sorrow that continually flows in upon me; and the little concern this unhappy woman* shows, adds fuel to my fire: if charity did not oblige one to pray to God Almighty not to reward her according to her merits, what would not one say?

* Dorothy Countess of Arran, the second wife of Lord Arran, and daughter of John Ferrers, of Tamworth Castle, Esq. She died April 30th, 1715.

My Lord of Ossory's having the regiment of Guards is matter of general satisfaction here to the Protestant well-wishers.

Duke of Grafton killed Jack Talbot, my Lord Shrewsbury's brother, in a duel this morning in High Park. Will Shaw is dangerously ill of a fever preying upon the spirits: if he grow worse, I will not fail to mind my Lord of Ossory to recommend you to my Lord Treasurer* for his business, and I believe none would be more acceptable to him than yourself.

Lemuel Kingdon will hardly recover, Frank Gwyn tells me just now.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

* Laurence (Hyde) Earl of Rochester, the second son of the Chancellor Clarendon. He had been made Lord Treasurer in 1685. He was a man of some talent, but corrupt and rapacious to a very great degree.

XX.

Mr. H. Wharton's duel.—Duke of Zell attacks Hamburgh.

Kingsday, 6th Feb. 1686.

SIR,

I HAVE the favour of yours of the 26th January last to thank you for; those to Mr. Matys and Captain Kendal were safely delivered. The Duke of Grafton had the ill luck to kill Jack Talbot in duel, after great provocations of very ill language. Henry Wharton* killed, the same day, one Moxon, a Lieutenant

* Henry Wharton was the third son of Philip fourth Lord Wharton, and brother of Thomas Marquis of Wharton. Banks, in his Extinct Baronage, mentions the following anecdote of him:—"In the reign of James the Second, when Tyrconnell was governor of Ireland, Henry Wharton assumed the habit of a player, and sung before the King, in the playhouse, the famous party song of Lillibullero." This song, according to Burnet, was "a foolish ballad made at that time (1688), treating the Papists, and chiefly the Irish, in a very ridiculous manner, which had a burden, said to be Irish words, *lero, lero, lillibullero*, that made an impression on the army, that cannot be well imagined by those who saw it not. The whole army, and at last all people both in city and country, were singing it perpetually. And perhaps never had so slight a thing so great an effect."—Burnet's Hist. of his own Time.

in the same regiment, which is the Duke of Norfolk's; but this was a drunken rencontre at the Blue Posts.*

This day his Majesty entered into the second year of his reign, and not an honest man in town but prayed it might be happy, and drinks it ere he goes to bed. We have nothing this long time here from abroad, but that the Duke of Zell marched 2000 men, and took possession of some part of the fortification of the City of Hamburgh, which puts them there much in alarm. We know not yet whether by precaution, lest others should do it, or by way of reprisal.

XXI.

Court news.—Disturbance at Edinburgh.

London, 9th Feb. 1686.

DEAR JACK,

SINCE my last to you, I have yours of the 9th and 27th past to thank you for, as I do

* This account of the cause of Mr. Wharton's duel does not give us a very favourable idea of the state of society in the reign of the second James.

very heartily, and am very glad to find that I have not had the ill luck to miss any of your letters, which are so welcome to me in the mean time till I may be made happy with your good company, which I long for (I think) as much almost as you can do, and am sorry that I have yet no prospect how to procure it; I wish my Lord of Ossory may have more, to whom I will not fail to speak as you desire concerning it. I have little or no news to send you at present. The new Countess* has occasioned some division at Whitehall; and she is herself thought to be somewhat ill at ease since her new honour; and it is said she will suddenly go to try whether your Irish air will better agree with her. Poor Mr. Shaw has been much out of order for these ten or twelve days past, but

* Lady Dorchester. The Queen and the priests had made a scene with the King upon his creating her a Countess. "He, to quiet them all, promised that he would send her to Ireland, which was done accordingly. But, after a stay there of some months, she came over again; and that ill commerce was still continued."—Burnet.

I hope he is, or will be soon, abroad again. There has been some little disorder lately at Edinburgh,* which I hope will have no further consequences. Adieu!

XXII.

Duke of Grafton bailed.—Dismissal of two Judges.

Whitehall, 11th Feb. 1686.

Mr. Joshua Vincent, the Non-conformist minister that was lately taken near Exeter, was on Sunday night committed to Newgate for high treason.

The Coroner's jury having found the Duke of Grafton guilty of manslaughter only, for killing Mr. Talbot, his Grace was yesterday bailed.

* This was occasioned by Lord Perth's having "set up a private chapel in the court for mass." "The town of Edinburgh was much alarmed at this; and the rabble broke in with such fury, that they defaced every thing in the chapel. And if the Earl of Perth had not been conveyed away in disguise, he had very probably fallen a sacrifice to popular rage."—Burnet.

This morning, Sir Creswell Levinz, one of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas, and Sir William Gregory, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, received their several quietuses,* and Sir Thomas Jenner and Mr. Serjeant Bedingfield are to succeed. And Mr. Holt,† of Gray's Inn, to be Recorder of London, in the place of Sir Thomas Jenner.

XXIII.

Preparations of the French and Dutch for the campaign.—King of France ill.—Complaints of Barillon.—Affairs of Scotland.—Lady Arran and Lord Longford.

London, Feb. 23d, 1686.

I AM just returned from Richmond, where I have been these four days, partly for

* These judges were dismissed because they would not agree in the views of the Court, and acquit or pardon those persons who were prosecuted for not taking the test.

† Afterwards Lord Chief Justice in the reign of King William, and one of the most eminent, upright, and constitutional judges who have ever sat upon the bench. He was born at Thame, in Oxfordshire, in 1642, and died in 1709.

fresh air, and partly *à voir La belle Veuve.* I know not how it will end, but I find their fears and jealousies wonderful great, and their care proportionable.

I hear one Aubrey, a Herefordshire Parliament man, is made Commissioner of your Revenue in poor Lemuel's stead: he died very low in fortune, according to our guesses of old.

The Lunenburg troops are drawn off from Hamburg, but have done the citizens' country houses and gardens much harm. The French make great preparations for war on the frontiers. Cologne, or Mastreich, seem likeliest to be the objects of his fury, though at present his Majesty keeps his bed indisposed by a fistula.* The Prince of Orange† will speedily

He was removed from the office of Recorder in about a year and half from the time of his appointment, in consequence of his refusing to assist in abolishing the test.

* Lewis the Fourteenth was unwell with the complaint mentioned in the text during the greater part of this year, and finally, on the 18th of November, underwent an operation. The danger of the disease seems, however, to have been ridiculously magnified in the reports, to which it gave rise.

† Afterwards William the Third.

have his flying army of 25,000 men encamped near Breda for the relief of either of the aforesaid towns if attacked, and sends two battalions of his guards to Mastreich for reinforcement of the garrison. Barillon* complained in council on Sunday, that our expressions in the brief for the Protestants of France reflect upon his master; so alterations are designed to his mind. Lord Murray,† who is to go Commissioner of Scotland as an indifferent man between Perth‡

* Barillon was at this time the French Ambassador in England, and was the agent employed by his master to bribe the King and Government of this country.

† Alexander (Stuart) fourth Earl of Moray. He was appointed Commissioner to the Parliament of Scotland, in consideration of his lately having become a convert to the Roman Catholic religion. He was turned out of his employments at the Revolution; and died in 1700.

‡ James (Drummond) fourth Earl of Perth, Chancellor of Scotland, created by James after his abdication, Duke of Perth. He was one of the most cruel, treacherous, and corrupt among the knot of "bold bad men," who ruled Scotland during the reigns of Charles and James. He had quarrelled with the Duke of Queensberry, because he thought the latter too haughty in his manner to him. Upon coming up to Court to complain against the Duke, his grounds of objection against

and Queensberry,* we think hath given the King assurances of having imbibed a new faith; but he denies it stiffly. His Majesty and his priesthood disagree in matters of policy, by what I can guess; and Mansuete his confessor is displacing. Lady Dorchester, that went towards you on Wednesday last, miscarried three miles beyond St. Alban's, and lies there still, liker to die than live: returns back hither as soon as able, and may be was to-night.

Lady Arran designs outing Lord Longford†

him were found so slight, that no one would attend to them. Till at length he bethought him to say, that he and his brother, Lord Melfort, had been made converts to the Roman Catholic religion, in consequence of having read the papers found in Charles the Second's strong box. Upon this, the Duke of Queensberry was turned out of his appointments. It was upon this occasion that Lord Halifax told Lord Perth, he need not mind the weakness of his reasons, for "*that his faith would make him whole!*"

* William (Douglas) first Duke of Queensberry, so created November 3d, 1684. His cruelties and arbitrary proceedings in Scotland were little inferior to those of his enemy Perth. He died March 28th, 1695.

† Francis (Aungier) third Lord and first Earl of Longford, in Ireland. He was Lord Arran's executor, in consequence

of his executorship by a motion in Chancery, if he will not upon a civil desire, and she take upon her the trouble, but I hope he will not agree to any thing but as my Lord Duke shall be consenting to: you may tell him thus much. I have Mrs. Bell's two letters, which I will answer this week. Fitz-James,* the King's son, is said to be designed to marry Lord Tyrconnell's daughter, be made Duke of Leinster, and have the lands settled upon him Sir William

of having married Lady Anne Chichester, daughter and coheir to Arthur first Earl of Donegal, and widow of John Earl of Gowran, Lord Arran's younger brother. Lord Longford was at this time a Commissioner of the Irish Revenue. In 1697, he was made one of the Keepers of the Great Seal, and was besides Master of the Ordnance. He died December 22d, 1700.

* James Fitz-James, the natural son of James the Second, by Arabella Churchill; afterwards the deservedly celebrated Duke of Berwick. He served long in the French armies, and was taken prisoner by his uncle, the Duke of Marlborough, in one of the actions in Flanders. His most signal success was the victory of Almanza, in Spain, obtained over Lord Galway, and the English and Portuguese troops. He was killed by a cannon shot at the siege of Philipsburg, in 1734.

Talbott managed, and Lord Oxford's regiment is bartering for, for him.

Yours, J. H.

Pray send me word by the first, if poor G. Sympson, whom my Lord took from a surveyorship at Ringsend, may be re-admitted, for he desires it of all things.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

XXIV.

Appointment of Mr. Aubrey.—Affairs of Scotland.

London, 27th Feb. 1686.

DEAR JACK,

I HAVE received your kind letter of the 17th instant, and this evening the cask with usquebagh is also come safe to my hands; for both I return you many thanks, and desire to know how many pounds I am indebted to you for the latter, and where you will have me pay

it. My Lord of Ossory* is at present with his grandfather down in the country: as soon as he comes up, I will not be wanting to remind him of your concerns, and do wish heartily that I could point out any thing in particular to him for you, but as yet I have no one thing of that kind in view. You will have heard ere this, of Mr. Kingdon's death, and that Mr. Aubrey is his successor, a man that spoke always honestly in the two last sessions of Parliament: whether it were that which recommended him to my Lord Treasurer's favour I know not, but his Lordship alone is said to be the man that has now made him. And Mr. Keightly is not the only man thereby disappointed, but has both Sir Maurice Eustace and Sir Robert Hamilton to bear him company, the last whereof is said to bear it the most uneasily. You will have heard that the Earl of Murray is appointed to be Lord High Commissioner, to hold a Parliament in Scotland on the 9th of April next, from which better things

* Afterwards the second Duke of Ormonde.

are expected for the King's service than what the last meeting of ours here did produce. To this I have now a fresher piece of news to add, which is the lowering of the great Duke of Queensbury, who from Lord High Treasurer of Scotland, is fallen to be the third man in the Commission of six, for the executing that charge, whereof the Lord Chancellor* of that kingdom is the first, Duke Hamilton† next, then Duke of Queensbury, the Marquis of Athol,‡ the Lord Viscount Tarbat§ (alias Lord

* Lord Perth.

† Lord William Douglas, son of the Marquis of Douglas; created Earl of Selkirk, and subsequently, in consequence of his marriage with Anne Duchess of Hamilton, Duke of Hamilton for life. He held many high Scotch offices under William the Third, and died at Holyrood House, on the 18th of April, 1694.

‡ John (Murray), second Earl, and first Marquis of Atholl. He married the daughter of James seventh Earl of Derby, through whom the sovereignty of the Isle of Man, and the title of Baron Strange of Knockyn, has since been conveyed to the family of Murray.

§ Sir George Mackenzie, created, by James, Viscount Tarbat, and by Queen Anne, Earl of Cromarty. He was the creature and agent of the infamous Earl of Middleton. Bur-

Register), and lastly Lieutenant-General Drummond.* All these, except Duke Hamilton, having other places of profit, have no salary upon this account; but Duke Hamilton, having no other place but what he holds in all the Councils, has a salary of 1000*l.* per annum annexed to it. And Duke Queensbury is made also President of the Council, with a salary of 1000*l.* per annum on that account; but then he must part with his government of Edinburgh Castle

net calls him "a man of great vivacity of parts, but full of ambition;" and adds, "he has had the art to recommend himself to all sides and parties by turns, and has made a great figure in Scotland now above fifty years. He had great notions of virtue and religion, but they were only notions, at least they have not had great effect on himself." He died at the advanced age of eighty-three, on the 17th of August, 1714.

* The Honourable William Drummond, fifth son of John second Lord Maderty. He was a great royalist in Scotland in the time of the Commonwealth; in spite of which Lauderdale imprisoned him in Dumbarton Castle in 1675, upon a false accusation of corresponding with the disaffected in Holland. He was a man of ability and reputation. In the course of the year 1686, he was created Viscount Strathallan. He died in January 1688.

to the Duke of Gordon,* who is also admitted into the Councils. Thus you see a small change is begun in the kingdom, from which much good is expected. I have no other news to tell you, save only that I chanced to be one of your brother's† auditors last St. Matthias's day, and could not but much approve and admire his discourse, though I am not of his persuasion. Adieu! and all good luck attend you.

XXV.

Van Zitters and Villeroi.—Obadiah Walker's conversion.—Affairs of Scotland.—Other promotions and changes.

London, Feb. 27th, 1686.

Van Zitters‡ had last night audience, being just come from Holland. The King was

* George, fourth Marquis of Huntley, and first Duke of Gordon. At the Revolution he seems to have played a foolish undecided part, and to have been in consequence suspected and despised by both sides.

† Philip Ellis.

‡ The Dutch Ambassador.

wonderfully kind and cajoling, and particularly respective to the Prince of Orange, mentioning the double tie upon him to support and regard his interest, and ended with great assurances to preserve the peace of Nimeguen inviolable; yet we daily expect the Duke de Villeroy* from France, most think to ratify the league offensive and defensive between us. The French King is ill, but, notwithstanding all the discourse, it is no apoplexy, gout, or piles, but, as I am credibly informed and really believe, the p—, for Mr. de Senelaij† has played the South-

* Francis de Neufville, Duke de Villeroi, Marshal of France, 1693, Preceptor of Lewis the Fifteenth, died 1730. His pompous vanity, and his absurdities in every way, are well known to the readers of St. Simon, and the other memoirs of that time. He is also well described in verse, as

——— " Ce Marechal peu favori de la gloire;
Et grand dans l'œil-de-bœuf, mais petit dans l'histoire!"

† John Baptist Colbert, Marquis of Seignelai, son of " Le grand Colbert," Secretary of State for the Marine in France. Voltaire says of him, that " his understanding was even more capacious than that of his father, and at the same time more brilliant, and more cultivated."

eske* with him. Obadiah Walker,† the Master of University College, four fellows of the same Society, and eleven others of the foundation, commoners and gentlemen commoners, all hear mass daily by four priests sent them to that purpose in the college; and peace is to be kept by the strength of Lord Aylesbury's‡ troop, and a regiment will speedily be sent thither, as fame says. We are making my Lord

* The disgraceful story of Lord Southeske's conduct with respect to James, when Duke of York, is mentioned in Grammont. Whatever may have been the truth of the original tale, there is no reason to suppose there was any foundation for the report as applied to Lewis and M. de Seignelai.

† "There were but very few proselytes gained to Popery; and these were so inconsiderable, that they were rather a reproach than an honour to them. Walker, the head of University College, and five or six more at Oxford, declared themselves to be of that religion; but with this branch of infamy, that they had continued for several years complying with the doctrine and worship of the Church of England, after they were reconciled to the Church of Rome."—Burnet's History of his own Time.

‡ Thomas (Bruce) second Earl of Aylesbury, and third Earl of Elgin in Scotland. He was a Roman Catholic, and, after the Revolution, left England, and settled at Brussels, where he died, in 1741.

Dover* a Mr. Louvois, to the great displeasure of Lord Sunderland;† but this is upon the wings of fame, and many other wonderful things which I steadfastly believe. Lord Mur-

* Henry Jermyn, so often mentioned in Grammont as the most celebrated *homme à bonnes fortunes* of the Court of Charles the Second. In the succeeding reign, he became a politician and favourite of the King, for which he seems to have been less qualified. The comparison of him to Louvois alludes to the "Dragonades," the war of the Cevennes, and other conversions perpetrated in a similar manner by that minister. Jermyn was created Lord Dover in 1685. He was nephew of Henry (Jermyn) Earl of St. Alban's, the lover, and afterwards the supposed husband of Henrietta Maria. Lord Dover died in 1708.

† Robert (Spencer) second Earl of Sunderland, a statesman so profligate and treacherous, that no side could trust him. He filled many eminent offices without honour, and passed through a conspicuous career without credit. In 1688, to preserve his favour with King James, he became a Catholic. He died September 28th, 1702. The character of him and of his wife (Anne Digby) given by Queen Anne, in a letter of hers to her sister, the Princess of Orange, dated March 20th, 1688, is curious both from the language and the tenour of it. "Sure never was a couple so well matched as she and her good husband; for as she is throughout, in all her actions, the greatest jade that ever was, so he is the subtillest, workingest villain that is on the face of the earth."– Dalrymple's Memoirs, vol. iii. p. 301.

ray, the Scotch Secretary, (lately converted and laughed at into the bargain, by his noble namesake and kinswoman the Duchess of Richmond,*) declared Commissioner of Scotland, Gordon's Duke Governor of Edenburg Castle in Queensberry's place, who is wholly laid aside, and a Parliament going to sit here; on your side, a new Lord Chancellor, Charles Porter,† four judges, Nagle, Rice, Nugent, Daly; in Reynolds, Johnson, and Hartstonge's places. Lord Tyrconnell becomes Generalissimo after Easter, and rare work will begin. Cashell and Elphin may be supplied by other means than your Lord Lieutenant recommends. I expect no more of our side the hedge, though Barillon is labouring hard this evening. Be sure make

* "La Belle Stuart" of Grammont, who married Charles (Stewart) sixth Duke of Lennox, and fourth Duke of Richmond. She was the daughter of the Honourable Walter Stuart, Doctor of Medicine, third son of Walter first Lord Blantyre. She died October 15th, 1702.

† Sir Charles Porter was appointed Lord Chancellor of Ireland, January 9th, 1686. Henry Lord Clarendon, in his Diary, says of him, and of Roger North, that they were the only two honest lawyers he ever met with

your pack ready, for warm work will begin. I am not certain now when I move hence, till I am out of town.

I had yours last night, opened by your own side, and scurvily sealed again with an ugly ship, which seal I really know belongs to one of your post-office officers, Standish, or Boddin. Send no more to Dr. Wynn, for all are opened by the Secretary's clerk, or Secretary's secretary's. Sir Charles Feilding has Russell's regiment, Russell Sarsefeild's* Lieutenant-colonelship here by his own seeking, and Sarsefeild old Ardglass's.

The march of the French troops is stopped upon his Majesty's illness.

It was Mrs. Worth that miscarried; and the Countess is gone forward, and will live where

* Patrick Sarsfield, created by James, after his abdication, Earl of Lucan. He was one of that King's best generals, and distinguished himself much during the war in Ireland. After the capitulation of Limerick, he is reported to have said to some of the English officers, "Low as we now are, change but Kings with us, and we will fight it over again with you."

Mr. Kingdon did. Your new Commissioner is a strange fellow to look at, and by his face and sort of interest, I guess it will be altered into a new channel.

XXVI

Promotions in the Peerage reported.—The King and his Troops.—German news.

6th March, 1686.

WE talk here of new honours, of about four or five Dukes, and some of a lesser rate, but nothing yet done towards: the Lords named are the Earls of Rochester, Sunderland, Burlington,* Mulgrave,† and Lord Dover; and

* Richard (Boyle) eldest son of the great Earl of Cork, created Earl of Burlington in 1664. He married the great Clifford heiress, daughter of the last Earl of Cumberland; and died in 1698.

† John (Sheffield) Earl of Mulgrave, created by William, Marquis of Normanby, and by Queen Anne, Duke of Buckinghamshire and Normanby. A man of considerable celebrity in his day. Walpole says of him, that "he had a great deal of bravery, and understood a Court." But adds, with

some mention Lord Tyrconnell too. Lord Dover's regiment is broke, and made a fourth troop of Guards. The King exerciseth his soldiers daily; last night late summons were sent to all the Guards, horse and foot, to be this morning at the Park. The French King is relapsed, and his tumour breaks out afresh, the *pierre de cautere* having been applied to him a second time. Tekeley* was made to re-

regard to his claims as an author, "His Grace's compositions in prose have nothing extraordinary in them; his poetry is most indifferent; and the greatest part of both is already fallen into total neglect." His account of his duel with Wilmot Lord Rochester; and his letter to the Duke of Shrewsbury about his house and gardens (Buckingham House) are well known. When the priests who were sent by James to convert him, had argued upon transubstantiation, the Duke answered them, that "he had taken much pains to bring himself to believe in God, who made the world, and all men in it; but it must not be an ordinary force of argument that could make him believe, that man was quits with God, and made God again." He was thrice married, and died in 1720. He was buried in Westminster Abbey, where his monument is remarkable for a pedantic and deistical epitaph.

* Emeric Count Tekeli, chief of the Hungarian malcon-

tire with his 1500 men, and the Germans in their pursuit of him took *D'Emblée*, a place called St. Job, where were 600 Turks. The Prince of Transylvania hath ranged himself under the obedience of the Emperor, the Emperor suffering his principality to be hereditary, and he paying 100^{m}. crowns and 100^{m}. measures of corn yearly. Some sort of men give out my Lord-Lieutenant is to be speedily recalled. Pray get somebody to answer the inclosed query, without letting them know who it concerns.

I desire you would order *30s.* to be stopped out of Mrs. Thicknesse's pension there, for so much I lent her; at least desire Mr. Smith to threaten her.

tents. He was at this time in the Turkish service. He was a brave officer, but his character was disgraced by the cruel ravages he perpetrated, wherever he turned his footsteps. He died at Nicomedia in Asia, in a palace given him by the Sultan Mustapha, the Second, September 13th, 1703.

XXVII.

Farther changes reported.—Miscellaneous news.

London, March 9th, 1686.

DEAR SIR,

WE have no letters on this side since the 20th of last month; and I have not had any for a much longer time, though this evening I hear Jack Salkeld is arrived two days agone. The town is full of the discourse of changes, but the truth of any thing I dare not assert. Lords Kingston* and Blessington have lost their troops in Lord Tyrconnell's scheme, I am well assured; and the Governor of Culmore's purchase proves not well. Your addle-headed Commissioner I see not parted hence yet—rare work I dare promise you ere long. I have reprieved myself till towards Easter, before I move towards you, though this was the day I heretofore designed leaving the town. Lord Dover's regiment is forming into a fourth troop of Guards, and it is undetermined yet

* Robert (King) second Lord Kingston.

who and who shall be together. Tyrconnell goes hence after Easter, *cum Junone.** I reckon he will be something very like a Lord-Lieutenant, and that too in a few months. The Treasurer seems waning here, and my friend Dartmouth† too; but there is yet a farther project, but I dare not say it till I see you. We have many Dukes upon the stocks, but I think none will be made. Lord Marquis Halifax hath laid at the threshold to no purpose; now he descends to old Rufford.‡ I reckon very speedily upon two vacant Dukedoms, Buckingham§ and Albe-

* The Duchess of Tyrconnell, the beautiful Jennings of Grammont.

† George (Legge) first Lord Dartmouth. He was a good naval officer, and discharged many offices of trust and dignity with fidelity, during the reigns of Charles and James the Second. In 1682, he was created Lord Dartmouth. At the Revolution he was deprived of his employments, and subsequently, in 1691, committed prisoner to the Tower, where he died of apoplexy after three months imprisonment.

‡ Lord Halifax's place in Nottinghamshire.

§ George (Villiers) second Duke of Buckingham of that family, whose talents, vices, and eccentricities are too well

marle;* the first worn to a thread by whoring, the other burnt to a coal with hot liquor. The Irish are the happy men here.

The Grand Louis is ill again, a second suppuration; and the men of judgment say he is in great danger of dying in miserable pain, and speedily.

Prince of Orange gone to hunt at Dieren; put off the designed camp upon the weather clearing up about him.

Desire Gar. Barr to let me know by the first, how the tenure of that security runs that Alderman Knox gave my poor Lord, in the case of the half-pence for his third share.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

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known to render any account of them here necessary. He died in 1687.

* Christopher (Monck) second Duke of Albemarle. Died in Jamaica, of which he was Governor, in 1687.

XXVIII.

New Commission for the Navy.—Changes in Ireland.—Marriages of Lord Mulgrave, and the Duke of Northumberland.—Intrigues at Court.—Foreign news.

London, March 15th, 1686.

I HAD yours of the 27th of Feb. and 3d instant last Friday, and thank you for them. The inclosed the Countess* had at Somerset house. His Grace† keeps at Cornbury, has a great Court, designs to go to Badminton,‡ but they first come to him a fortnight hence; so that it looks as though the old gentleman would get leave to miss doing his duty at the Easter offering. I am sorry neither he nor Lord Ossory are here, for the Commission for the Navy is now destroyed, and something there might at least have been offered at for your advantage, and I know not where to apply myself

* Lady Arran.

† The Duke of Ormonde. Cornbury was the seat of Lord Clarendon, and it is presumed was either lent or let to the Duke, while the former was in Ireland.

‡ The country-house of the Duke of Beaufort, whose daughter was married to Lord Ossory.

for you: it is done at Pepys's* request wholly, and his creatures placed in it, Sir Anthony Deane, Eure, &c. in it. I have been designing that way myself, but am timorous of being down prest with business. There was a review to-day in High Park. The great Tyrconnell goes for Bath on Monday, and forward, after a short stay, towards you: we believe he will be Governor of Dublin, and Lieutenant-general Granard† kicked up to President of the Coun-

* Samuel Pepys, the author of the well-known Diary, who was in great favour during the reign of James. Deane and Eure were both his dependents, and the former had even been his servant.

† Arthur (Forbes) first Earl of Granard in Ireland, so created 1684. He was a brave officer, and much attached to the House of Stuart, to which he had rendered considerable services during the civil wars, both in Scotland and Ireland. He had been Lieutenant-general of the army in Ireland, which office Tyrconnell was now anxious to obtain. Hence the attempt to transfer Lord Granard to the Presidentship of the Council, a place of higher dignity, but less power and profit. Lord Granard, however, declined accepting it, (for an account of the transaction see Lord Clarendon's Correspondence.) The expression of "kicked up," is taken from what Lord Halifax said, when Lord Rochester was, contrary to his own wishes and advantage, *promoted* to be President of

cil, &c. I hear to-day Sarsefeild is a brigadier of your army, but answer not for the bruit of it. Will Legge* is surely Governor of Kingsale, to the great disgust and disappointment of the red-letter men. Here is an odd pardon come out, and a new commission of inquiry going westward, amongst the nest where the rebellion broke out. Lord Mulgrave married to Lady Conway† to-day. Hallifax retires to-morrow to Rufford. Duke of Northumberland‡ bubbled into marriage with Lucy's wi-

the Council, from having been Lord Treasurer. "He had," he observed, "heard of many kicked down stairs, but never of any one kicked up stairs before!" Lord Granard died in 1695.

* William Legge was brother to the first Lord Dartmouth. He was Page, and afterwards Groom of the Bedchamber to Charles II. He was at this time M. P. for Portsmouth; and Lieutenant Colonel of the Queen's regiment of horse.

† Ursula, daughter and coheiress of Colonel George Stawel (brother of the first Lord Stawel), and widow of Edward Earl Conway, sometime Secretary of State, who died in 1683. She had no children either by Lord Conway, or the Duke of Bucks.

‡ George (Fitzroy), natural son of Charles II. and of the Duchess of Cleveland. He was created Baron of Pontefract,

dow, to the disgust of the King. Mansuete,* the Confessor, is heaved at by the Queen Dowager,† Tyrconnell, &c.; and Peters the Jesuit designed in his stead. The Jupiter refractory, and Juno termagant. Your brother,‡ in very good grace. Speaks *ex cathedrâ* like an angel; they cannot all be what they would; his patroness is defunct. Your brother Will § is to be right-hand to Tyrconnell when he comes, and is set straight in the King's opinion by him. Baron Starenberg, the Dutch Ambassador's Secretary at Paris, is sent to, to begone in a day's

Viscount Falmouth, and Earl of Northumberland in 1674, and Duke of the same county in 1682. He died without issue in 1716.—He had just married Catherine, daughter of Thomas Wheatley, Esq. and widow of Thomas Lucy, of Charlcote, in Warwickshire, Esq. It would appear that this was a match much disapproved of, and strongly resisted; but that the Duke of Northumberland had accomplished it through the assistance of his brother Grafton; who afterwards removed the new-married couple out of the reach of the King's displeasure.

* Mansuete was the King's Confessor.

† Catherine of Portugal, the widow of Charles II.

‡ Philip Ellis.

§ Sir William Ellis; for an account of him, see Preface.

time, or the King would have him broke upon the wheel at Paris. The King still indisposed there, but no immediate hopes of a new monarch. I thank you for your kind offer to help me in my small affairs. I design not moving quickly. The middle of May, when the King goes to Windsor, I may chance to move, if I am not better employed. No great life in the Richmond affair, but I desert it not.

Tell Sir Charles I almost despair of compassing his desire: his friends are slow, but Lord Dartmouth very civil and more willing than any other: against Saturday shall say more, but let him not expect much. Murray gone yesterday, his Grace* for Scotland. Hamilton nor Queenbury must not stir, but accept such pork as is set before them. Your Chancellor Porter goes Easter Monday. Send the inclosed.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

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* Lord Moray had just been made Lord Commissioner.

XXIX.

The Court gone to St. James's.—Dr. Lower refuses to go to the King of France.

20th March, 1686.

SIR,

I AM much mistaken if I did not tell you or Mr. Smith, I had received the two guineas from Mr. Philipps; and pray tell Mr. Smith so. I desire you would secure me my 30*s*. from Mrs. Thicknesse, lest the poor devil should die. Earl of Mulgrave is at last married, and brings his bride hither next Monday. We are to have no campment after all, at least 'tis so given out; the neater to surprise people. The Court is removed to St. James's for the holy week and days. Dr. Lower* is said to have refused 3000*l*. to go and cure the

* Richard Lower, one of the most celebrated physicians and anatomists of his day. He published several valuable treatises upon subjects connected with his profession. He was born at Tremere, in Cornwall, about 1631, and died January 17, 1691. His practice had been at one time most extensive, but had declined during the latter years of his life, in consequence of his being out of favour at Court, by reason of his Whig principles.

French King of his fistula—the wheel, galleys, and Bastile, made much deeper impression upon him; for (besides what other reasons his fancy suggests) he thinks (as the case was stated to him) his most Christian Majesty cannot outlive his distemper.

Mr. Ellis.

XXX.

Account of the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland's escape.—Lord and Lady Mulgrave arrived.—Scotch news.—Lord Mountjoy gone to Hungary, &c.

London, March 23d, 1686.

Yesterday morning, his Grace of Grafton ran away with his brother Northumberland and the new Duchess, laying his shallop beside Chelsey, where the coachway leads down to the water side. The Duke of Grafton came back last night, but what became of the others I know not: they rowed merrily through bridge. Some say, she took him prisoner, when the elder Duke was gone, and has brought him

back to-day; but yesterday we all concluded them gone for France into a monastery—the bridegroom Duke being become already weary and so consenting, and the King himself passive in it.

The two Archbishops from Scotland* made so round a remonstrance of the undoubted ill consequences of a Parliament aiming at such things as they were given to understand was the King's desires, that it is put off; but on your side, I think matters will go more thorough-stitch. Lord Hallifax is retired to Rufford, where he is sore hurt to have his own shoulder of mutton, his own easy chair, &c.

Yesterday, Count Mulgrave and his new Countess came hither with a mean train of coaches and a filthy rabble of ragged tradesmen, but thus, at last, the great Lady Conway is bestowed. Mr. Barrillion last night gave the King an account of his master's recovery, but not to so strong a health but the waters of

* Arthur Ross, Archbishop of St. Andrew's, and Alexander Cairncross, Archbishop of Glasgow.

Bourbon must help to confirm it. Your great Tyrconnell went yesterday to the Bath, returns again hither, and then comes to see whose power is greatest on your side.

Our Cornbury people * spend too much of their time there; however, at Easter, I reckon, they will be here. Lady Ossory and Darby † are both breeding, according to the symptoms agreed upon amongst the women. Lady Betty Stanhope ‡ comes up: her match is said to be in a good forwardness with Lord Cambden.§

The Navy Commission is all altered and modelled according to Pepys' desire. You might

* The Ormonde family.

† Elizabeth Butler, eldest daughter of Thomas Earl of Ossory, and wife of William Richard George (Stanley) ninth Earl of Derby.

‡ Elizabeth Stanhope, only daughter of Philip second Earl of Chesterfield, by his second wife, Elizabeth Butler, eldest daughter of the first Duke of Ormonde, and the Lady Chesterfield mentioned in Grammont. Lady Betty Stanhope married John (Lyon) fourth Earl of Strathmore in Scotland.

§ Wriothesley Baptist (Noel) second Earl of Gainsborough, to which title he succeeded in 1689, upon the death of his father, and died himself in 1690. Campden was the second title of this family.

have been brought in there, if your old steady friends had either kept in the town or the world.

My friend Cornet Corbett owes me 31*l.* I wrote to Mr. Price about it, and Corbett wrote me word he had taken care for the payment of it: pray make inquiry, and get what you can into your hands, for I would wind up. And this post I have desired Sir Ch. Feilding to pay you ten pounds on Cousin Roger's account—pray look sharp there. And Thomas Allen has money in his hand, but what I know not: I desired him to state the account, and pay you what remained. I shall move hence this month. Yours,

J. H.

Lord Montjoy* is making an expedition into Hungary, to the wonder of the grave, but he

* Sir William Stewart, Bart. was created, in 1682, Baron Stewart and Viscount Mountjoy, and, at the same time, made Master-general of the Ordnance in Ireland, for life. He appears to have been a gallant officer, and a man of considerable influence in Ireland. During his expedition to Hungary, he

is bent upon it. Mr. Fitz-James* goes from Paris thither, and many Catholic sparks attend. Lord Spencer† is come hither. Here is a rare world! The Particular power in General Exception is worth your perusal. Our monarch is peevish, and shows his Councillors have deceived him.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

was twice dangerously wounded at the siege of Buda. In 1688, he undertook a mission to King James the Second in France, from the Irish Protestants; but when he arrived there, he was, it is supposed by the advice of Lord Tyrconnell, who found him from his activity and intelligence troublesome in his native country, imprisoned in the Bastile. There he remained till 1692 (having been in the mean while attainted in King James's Irish Parliament in 1689), when he was released. He joined William the Third, who was then engaged in a campaign in Flanders, and was killed August 24, 1692, at the Battle of Steinkirk.

* Afterwards Duke of Berwick.

† Robert Lord Spencer, eldest son of Robert second Earl of Sunderland, by his wife, Anne Digby, second daughter of George second Earl of Bristol. He was sent, in 1687, Envoy extraordinary to Modena, to make the compliments of condolence to the Duke upon the death of the Duchess. On

XXXI.

Foreign news.—Lords Ossory and Dumblaine at sea.

Whitehall, 25th March, 1686.

SIR,

I RECEIVED the favour of three of yours at Newmarket, where I spent a fortnight the most unpleasant of any place I was at in my life.

The inclosed letter I am desired by Monsieur le Marquis d'Albeville* to inclose to you; it hath an administration in it, and does order his attorney to wait of you for it.

All the news we have had these two days is, that the French are already in motion, had

his return, he died at Paris, Sept. 5, 1688, at the age of twenty-four.

* The Marquis d'Albeville was an Irishman, in the employment of James. He was sent, in 1687, ambassador to Holland. His name was White, and he had been a spy of the Spaniards; who gave him the title of Marquis in lieu of the payment of his appointments. He had been also employed by the French Government. Burnet calls him "a most contemptible and ridiculous man, who had not the common appearances of decency or truth;" and adds, that he was "a contemptible tool of the Jesuits."

bombarded Oudenard, and invested Charleroy, burning all about them. The Emperor is said to have dispatched a courier into Spain to dispose that King to accept of a truce from France; yet all preparations for war are going on; the French King to command in person in Flanders; the Prince of Orange and Marquis de Grana* threaten to hazard a battle; and all the Dutch troops that can be spared, are said to be drawing out in Holland, to march towards Flanders. The Prince of Orange had lately a conference with De Grana, and it is thought received some mercede, besides that of generalissimo in Flanders this campaign.

My Lord of Ossory went to sea last Thursday, for pleasure, with my Lord Dumblaine,†

* The Marquis de Grana was the Spanish Governor of Flanders.

† Peregrine Osborne, second surviving son of Thomas Earl of Danby and Duke of Leeds, and subsequently, by the death of his elder brother, the heir to the titles of the family. At present, during the life of Edward Lord Latimer, his elder brother, he was called Viscount Dumblaine in Scotland, that title having been surrendered to him in 1684, by his father. He was eventually the second Duke of Leeds. He was a

and that night was overtaken with a most violent storm. We hear, through great deliverance, that they are safe, drinking Champagne at Calais.

XXXII.

Grants of overflowed Lands.—Harbour of Kingsale.

King's Weston, 27th March, 1686.

I am sorry it was not my good hap to see you when last you were in England. I lately spent ten days at Cornbury, where the young Lady* gives hopes of an heir; and in discourse with my young Lord, I find he is still the same in his great good opinion of you, and as you only were the person he could rely on, for inspecting those abuses of his regiment, which ought to be reformed, and have long been complained of.

I had lately a letter from Kinsale, telling

naval officer, and in that capacity distinguished himself upon different occasions.

* Lady Ossory.

me of an order from the Commissioners of the Treasury to survey all lands overflowed by the sea. I have in that harbour several buildings belonging to me, which have been erected between the high and low water mark; and upon some disturbance given by a project of one Slingsby in the Lord Strafford's time, the town carried it that their charter impowered them to build upon all the strands; and indeed there can be no wharfs or quays any where built, but below the high-water mark.

In 1665, the Earl of Anglesey,* Lord John Butler,† James Hamilton of the Bed-chamber, and Mr. Jermyn, (now Lord Dover) got a large

* Arthur (Annesley) Viscount Valentia in Ireland, created at the Restoration Baron Annesley, and Earl of Anglesey. At that time he was what was called "one of the managers of the English interest in Ireland." He was at different times Treasurer of the Navy and Privy Seal; and died in 1686, leaving behind him a very indifferent reputation both in public and private life.

† John Butler, seventh son of the first Duke of Ormonde. He was created in 1676 Earl of Gowran, Viscount of Clonmore, and Baron of Aghrim, and died at Paris, in August 1677, leaving no issue by his wife, Anne Chichester, only daughter of Arthur, Earl of Donegal.

grant of all overflowed land in Ireland, which I put a stop unto at Oxford, where the Court then was, till they exempted unto me, all within the harbour's mouth of Kinsale; and they after passed this to me by lease and release in 1671, and the release was then entered in Dublin at the Rolls.

In 1674, my father made surrender of all his estate thereabouts to his Majesty, and had it newly granted, and with all the beneficial clauses that were needful as to strands, buildings, or overflowed lands. So that it is not in the power of law to cover me on all sides more than I am.

I hear that in 1684 one Mr. Slingsby got a grant of 5000*l.* to be raised out of overflowed lands; and that hereupon my Lord Anglesey and Lord Dover began to look after their preceding right.

Now, at whose inquiry these new orders are given from your board, I do not know; but I here state unto you my own right, which has all the power of the old charter, the power of

[library stamp]

the patentees of 1665, and of his late Majesty in 1674, to support it.

I hope you will keep me from any needless trouble, since I love nothing so much as my quiet, and that there is no reason to disturb it.

I kiss your hands, and am,

Sir,

Your most affectionate friend and servant,

ROBERT SOUTHWELL.*

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Right Honourable the Commissioners of the Treasury, in Dublin.

XXXIII.

The King goes hunting.—Intelligence respecting private affairs.—Chapel of the Elector Palatine's Envoy.—Promotions and changes.

London, March 27th, 1686.

YOURS are of so old a date and filed up, that I cannot tell when I last heard from

* Sir Robert Southwell, the ancestor of the Lords De Clifford. He was much employed in foreign missions, and was

you. I hope my quarrel may most justly be laid upon the ill weather, for all blows rank storms here these sixteen last days; yet his Majesty to-day (God bless him) underwent the fatigue of a long fox-chase. I saw him and his followers return, as like drowned rats as ever appendixes to royalty did. I can send you little certainty of matters, but that the Navy Commission is filled up according to Pepys's good liking. I went on purpose this afternoon to your monkish brother, and spent some hours with him; that sort of interest is strong, and a sort of necessity for using it. The chief of my aim was to urge him to attack Pepys, in order to make you a Commissioner on this side the water in the Navy: he has promised me to go speedily to him, with whom he has a fair acquaintance, and the high channel your brother's credit runs in makes not the worse for you.

made by King William Principal Secretary of State for Ireland, and was also Clerk of the Privy Council of that kingdom. He died at his seat of King's Weston, in Gloucestershire, Sept. 11, 1702, aged sixty-six. He appears to have been a steady adherent of the Ormonde family.

We often believe men have greater credit with Princes than really they have, which undoubtedly capacitates them to do us greater services with equals; as in this case I hope to your satisfaction you will find. Neither are you by any means to find fault with the way taken to attain this, for St. Paul refused not to go in the ship, though dedicated to Heathen Gods. He harped at something of your backwardness to lay down some money for Sam.* pray let me intreat you, if your convenience will in any wise admit of it, consult with Will.† and do it; there is the indelible obligation and affection of a brother on the one hand to urge you, and the insuring one that is both forward and able to do you offices of value, on the other.

The matter now grows somewhat barefaced which way the Catholic cause is to be advanced, for the Palatinate's Envoy has taken a house in the city, and is making conveniences for a mass chapel, that looks like something else than a

* Samuel Ellis. † Sir William Ellis.

place of prayer for his private family; whereupon the Lord Mayor, by some damned Protestant instigation, goes and forbids farther working, locks up the place, and takes the keys; but last night, his Majesty (not being to be so used) sent for Lord Mayor, and bade him return the man his goods, and ask pardon of the public minister. It may reasonably be expected that in a little time a great many so charactered may follow the example *ad propagandam fidem*. It looks with an odd face, and provoking to the *mobile*;* and ours have as weak a pretence to prudence upon such occasions, as any *mobile* in the world. Stroude is dead, or dying. Lord Pembroke† will succeed in one or both

* *i. e.* The Mob.

† Thomas, (Herbert) eighth Earl of Pembroke, born in 1656, died 1733, having filled the following various offices at different times, and under different Sovereigns: Ambassador to the States General, First Lord of the Admiralty, President of the Royal Society, Privy Seal, First Plenipotentiary at the Treaty of Ryswick, twice President of the Council, twice Lord High Admiral, one of the Commissioners of the Union between England and Scotland, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland,

the commands, as I guess. Sir Edward Hales* made Governor of Barbadoes. Merideth, a sort of Privy Councillor to Lord Sunderland, has put Clarke in dead Fr. Benson's room. Duchess of Northumberland's affair, I believe,

and seven times one of the Lords Justices of England during the absence of the Sovereign. He was also Lord Lieutenant of Wilts, Monmouth, and South Wales; and a Knight of the Garter. He was distinguished for his love of *virtu*, and is the Lord Pembroke mentioned by Pope, as buying "statues, dirty gods, and coins." The collection at Wilton was placed there by him.

* Sir Edward Hales, Bart. was a Roman Catholic, much in the King's favour. In the beginning of 1686, an action was brought against him by his coachman, for not having taken the test. He was convicted at the Rochester assizes; but having moved the cause into the King's Bench, and pleading there the King's dispensing power, judgment was given for him. In order to accomplish this, several judges, who were against allowing the King's dispensing power, had been previously turned out. Sir Edward never went to Barbadoes. He was, during the reign of James, one of the Lords of the Admiralty, Deputy Governor of the Cinque Ports, Lieutenant Governor of the Tower of London, and a Privy Councillor. At the Revolution he was confined in the Tower, from whence being released, he followed James to France, and was by him created Earl of Tenterden, in Kent. He died at Paris in 1695.

is accommodating in the mouth of the river; a wise undertaking always ends thereafter.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

XXXIV.

Farther particulars respecting the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland.—An Impostor in Holland calls himself the Son of the Duke of Monmouth.

27th March, 1686.

SIR,

I MAY have told you on this day sevennight, how the Duke of Northumberland had entangled himself in a sudden and unequal matrimony with Captain Lucy's widow. He is, it seems, already weary of it, and willing to cut that knot he had so rashly tied; and on Tuesday last he carried the said lady to take the air, and at Chelsey meeting the Duke of Grafton, they entered into his barge, designing for Windsor, or Putney, to be merry, but sailed another course, and got aboard a yacht that lay

ready for them, and have not been heard of since. Some say, they or theirs appeared here since, and kidnapped away a French woman to attend the new Duchess. They are supposed to be at anchor this side the Forelands, exposed to all the boisterous winds and weather we have had of late; and that they design to lock her up in a cloister, if she can get admission. But our ladies cannot think themselves safe, while this way of kidnapping of Duchesses is in practice. Earl of Mulgrave has brought home his fair Countess of Conway.

All French gazettes in Holland are interdicted, so that I cannot promise to send you any but Dutch, though it may prove a means to sell the French the better.

Pray let us know how your pulse beats *there*,* now that we are threatened with another Rebellion; for a young joncker of sixteen, fair and lovely as a cherubin, and as well spoken as Perkin, is landed at Dort; pretending (with all the advantageous circumstances) that he

* In Ireland.

escaped by dexterity out of the Tower, and is the first-born of Monmouth; and he is gone to Amsterdam to muster his party.

Mr. Ellis.

XXXV.

Various news.—Duke of Hamilton.—The Lord Mayor.—Lord Mountjoy, &c.

London, March 30th, 1686.

I HAD yours yesterday of the 18th and 21st, and am sorry nothing will fall out here worthy your looking after, that is within my knowledge. The Hackney-coach affair will not go without a parliament, which makes me believe the King has such a matter in his head: his Customs fall abominably. Duke Hamilton is upon the road hither, and I am of opinion he concedes in some points to be made Commissioner; and Lord Montague is coming from France, some whisper to be again intrusted, and what honour shall be given to the man that will *propagare fidem*. High allowances and

great stickling here towards it, the Church pays well. I writ on Saturday so fully, I need say little now, but pray bow a little to Baal,* though I doubt Will does too much. I had a letter from your brother to the same purpose as what yours said. I hope your Countess† will ship hither: pray be diligent and let me know upon the first probability of it. Lord Mayor had a public reprimand in council on Sunday evening, for what I told you he did, by my Lord Chancellor in a set speech. We want packets from France, which raiseth a great noise that the King is relapsed; but I think high cross winds are all the occasion. We are upon ill terms with Holland, and Zitters ill with the Prince, even to opposing him to his teeth. Lord Montjoy is not in danger that I can learn, only to be thought none of the wisest for going his son's volunteer to Hungary; yet he acts not so warily here as I could

* Meaning, to the Catholic Religion.

† Flower Backhouse, daughter and sole heir of William Backhouse, of Swallowfield, in Berkshire, Esq. and second wife of Henry, second Earl of Clarendon.

wish, for he has drawn Lord Dartmouth and that office* upon his back, but meanwhile he is gone to Cornbury, and they in a day or two move for three weeks to Badminton. I will stay here till after next term, if I go then.

Yours.

Mr. Ellis.

Mr. Sympson is gone hence towards you: pray be kind to him if he apply himself.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

XXXVI.

Various news.—Lady Dorchester.—Princess Anne.—The Prince of Piombino.—Philip Ellis in favour.—Dukes of Grafton and Northumberland returned.

London, April 6th, 1686.

YOURS of the 5th of last month came on Saturday hither per the boat we concluded lost. The busy time of devotion is now over here:

* The Office of Ordnance.

his Majesty, God bless him, one of the zealousest; ten hours in a day sometimes. The Court returns from St. James's to Whitehall to-morrow, and goes not to Windsor till the middle of May, when also the camp opens at Hownslow. Our sparks all go for Hungary to-morrow. Duke of Hamilton, Lieutenant-General Drummond, &c. come to town this evening, sent for; I imagine it will end in his Grace's becoming Commissioner of Scotland, though the common vogue is, he was sent for to be chidden for the method of his management, since he became a Commissioner of the Treasury there. Our Ministers of State have all retired likewise this holy season: Lord Chancellor* to his country-house near Uxbridge, Lord Treasurer† to Twitnam, Lord Sunderland to Althrope, either for the private satisfaction in their consciences, or to avoid showing in town whether they had any or no.

* Lord Jefferies. His country-house was Bulstrode, afterwards belonging to the Dukes fo Portland and Somerset.

† Lord Rochester.

I imagine your Countess of Dorchester will speedily move hitherward, for her house is furnishing very fine in St. James's-Square, and a seat taken for her in the new consecrated St. Ann's Church. The French King is not right yet, though little is said of him. Madame de Maintenon makes all the applications to him that he stands in need of. I hear poor Princess Ann is sadly teazed about a new declaration in matter of faith, so that at last it is agreed to after lying in; but I hope it may not be thus, say nothing of it. New equipage in great splendour is every where to be seen, especially their Majesty's. Her Majesty is wonderful glorious in her own apparel. Here is arrived an Italian Prince of Piombino,* the greatest spendthrift in the world reckoned, for he has consumed the greatest part of a patrimonial estate of 150,000*l.* per annum, and the treasure of three Popes. So it seems not that we need

* Buoncompagni Ludovisi, Prince of Piombino, who had inherited the fortunes of the Popes Gregory XIII. and Gregory XV.

fear his politics. This next term I am like to be confined hither, and then what I shall do I know not. Lords Ormonde and Ossory come next week; if their favour help not, I will see you for a little, to wind up a mean bottom very indifferently worth my while, and so go for Paris, and with my Lord Denbigh* into Italy in the winter. I hope you will succeed in your design of removal hither; but these Lords keeping thus out of town, puts us both out of our way. Phil.† has many wonderful kind expressions from the King, so that I imagine some room in the Navy (where they roll in money) might be found; so I advise you to solicit hard and court kindly. Sure Pepys would value Lord Ossory's recommendation at no mean rate, though Eure and he together

* Basil (Fielding) fourth Earl of Denbigh, who was going on his travels, not being yet of age. He had succeeded his father in the title in 1685. He became Master of the Horse to Prince George of Denmark, and subsequently one of the Tellers of the Exchequer. He died March 18th, 1717.

† Philip Ellis.

neglect all where money chinks not. You may be sure of me upon all occasions.

Your new Chancellor is on the road; and I am going to sup with Will Legg, Governor of Kingsale, who follows him to-morrow.

Sir G. Hewet is dying. The Graces Grafton and Northumberland are returned from Newport,* and put the lady in a monastery; but the King says, it is not fit she should stay, nor is it believed she will.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

XXXVII.

Avarice of Pepys.—Death of Lord Anglesey.—Arrival of the Scotchmen.—Other news.

London, April 10th, 1686.

Yours of the last of March came yesterday, and that of the 5th instant to-day. I shall urge your monkish brother all I can, and imagine his personal interest in Alcander† will

* Nieuport in Flanders. † Probably the King.

do. He tells me he discoursed Pepys about the matter, who told him all was settled. I know the griping temper of both him and Eure, and what rates every poor boson* pays for what he has purchased with his blood and many years' hardship. When Lord Ossory returns hither, we will farther dive into the matter. I gave myself an aching head the other day by pumping John Grahme, Lord Dartmouth's Secretary, about it, and shall not stick at another when a fair occasion presents. I confess to you, how feasible soever, I am not fond of your side the water, for I see how the air overcasts, and it must either resolve into wind or water; though I look upon Lord Anglesey's death to be a very considerable balk upon the gaping gudgeons on that side, for I was just discerning they designed him the breaker of the Irish settlement; so a projected Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland is defunct in embryo. He had admitted conferences with the priesthood, but declared to Dr. Sharpe,† he died

* Boatswain.

† Dr. John Sharp, a celebrated divine of the times in

in the communion of the Church of England, though he was never a member to be bragged of. His fortune is left in great disorder, and his domestic affairs particularly so; for every one that accommodated his family with the ordinary supports of life, are in arrear to admiration. The Irish Papists (now he is gone) say it was a great mistake to believe he was likely to come into use again. The Scotchmen came on Tuesday, viz. Duke of Hamiltoun, Lieutenant-General Drummond, and Sir George Lochart,* and have been at long conferences since in council: all matters are agreed, and Murray goes Commissioner on Tuesday next; hence some little disagreement at first, but private conferences with them separately united all. Phil. Mus-

which he lived. He was at this time Rector of St. Giles's and Dean of Norwich, and was afterwards successively Dean of Canterbury, and Archbishop of York; in which latter situation he died, February 2d, 1714.

* Sir George Lockhart was an eminent Scotch lawyer, who had been much in opposition to Lauderdale's government during the reign of Charles the Second. Burnet calls him "the most learned lawyer, and the best pleader, he had ever known in any nation."

grave is hither too in a hopeful way of getting through the small-pox: if the critical time make any alteration, I will look sharp, for this is but the sixth day. I missed of your brother monk this evening, but am glad you have adjusted all that matter to content about Sam. A new Judge in each Bench is all the alteration at present you will find; as affairs ripen, more may be looked for. Tyrconnell is ill at the Bath, and I believe no Commission will go hence till he do, but undoubtedly the alterations are very great. I understand not whether Mr. Keightley* is Vice-Treasurer actually, or only in common vogue. Jack P—— must at that rate be undone, for I know Keightley's

* Thomas Keightley, a friend of Henry Lord Clarendon, and much trusted by him, as appears by the Clarendon Correspondence. Lord Clarendon says of him, "He is a man of very good sense, and of an excellent understanding: he has as general a character of a man of worth and sincerity amongst all sorts of people, as I have known." He was made Vice-Treasurer of Ireland, and was subsequently, during the Lord-Lieutenancy of Lord Rochester, one of the Lords Justices of that kingdom.

fortune cannot lay down the sum the place is really pawned to Jack for. I thank you for your kindness to honest George Sympson. The Parson of Putney is turned Papist: Canterbury is framing a process against him, and the King maintains we are to expect more of the kind. Dr. Cartwright* has given us a late say in a printed sermon, what we are to expect from him.

* He was shortly after this made Bishop of Chester, to reward him for giving way in all points to the designs of the Court. "He was ambitious and servile, cruel and boisterous; and by the great liberties he allowed himself, he fell under much scandal of the worst sort. He had set himself long to raise the King's authority above law; which, he said, was only a method of government to which Kings might submit as they pleased; but their authority was from God, absolute and superior to law, which they might exert as oft as they found it necessary for the ends of government."† He was one of the Commissioners for controlling the President and Fellows of Magdalen College, Oxford. At the Revolution he fled to France, and on the death of Dr. Seth Ward was appointed by James to the See of Salisbury. Accompanying that Monarch to Dublin, he died there of a dysentery, April 15th, 1689.

† Burnet.

Sir P. Howard is dying reconciled to Rome; and Duke of Albemarle goes into his Jamaica Government, if he will. On Tuesday I say more, it is late now.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue at
Ireland. Dublin.

XXXVIII.

Death of Archbishop of York.—Law promotions and changes.—Great robbery near Guildford.

April 15th, 1686.

I AM sorry I have no better occasion or subject for writing to you at this time, than the death of one of your best friends, my Lord Archbishop of York,* who died on Sun-

* Dr. John Dolben, descended from an ancient Welsh family, born in 1625. At the commencement of the civil wars he joined the royal army, and was severely wounded both at the battle of Marston Moor, and in the defence of York. In 1656, he took orders, and from that time till the Restoration resided at Oxford, where, with Drs. Fell and Allestree, he regularly performed the service of the Church of England in a private house to a considerable congregation. This event is commemorated in a picture by Sir Peter Lely, still in

day last, of the small-pox, in the absence of his lady, who was attending the funeral of her mother. The first news we had of his illness was, that he was taken with an apoplectic or lethargic fit, but belike it turned to this no less fatal distemper to him, being in his great climacteric. Who will succeed him is not yet said, nor indeed can be guessed at, though some pretend to suppose London, Ely, or Rochester for it.* We have had some Irish letters in our office for the making three new Judges in Ireland; and it is confidently reported there will be a greater change made in the Benches† here by the next term; as that my Lord

the possession of Dolben's descendants. In 1662, he was made Dean of Westminster; in 1666, Bishop of Rochester; and in 1683, Archbishop of York. The character of Archbishop Dolben by Sir William Trumbull describes him as an eminently pious and highly-gifted prelate.

* Dr. Thomas Lamplugh was made Archbishop of York, being translated from Exeter.

† This was on the occasion of the trial of Sir Edward Hales, and the refusal of the Judges to allow of the King's dispensing power. The Judges turned out were Sir Thomas Jones, William Montagu, Sir Job Charlton, and Sir Edward Neville. Those who filled their places were Sir Henry Be-

Chief Justice Jones shall have his quietus, and my Lord Chief Justice Herbert* descend from the King's Bench to supply that more beneficial place: that Mr. Justice Withens, Mr. Serjeant Lutwich, Chief Justice of Chester, or Mr. Holt, Recorder of London, is to be Chief Justice of the Upper Bench; and Mr. now Sir Ambrose Philips, a Chancery practitioner, and good common lawyer, is to be Lord Chief Baron, in the room of my Lord Chief Baron Montague. Some other alterations, as it is said, are to be in all or some of those courts, but of these I can give you no account. Two Dutch mails that came in with two bags, and

dingfield, Sir Edward Atkyns, Sir Richard Lutwyche, and Richard Heath. The King had said to Jones, that he was determined to have twelve Judges of his opinion: to which the latter replied, "Possibly you may find twelve Judges of your opinion, but you will scarce find twelve lawyers to be so."

* Chief Justice Herbert had succeeded Jefferies in the King's Bench. He was brother of Admiral Herbert, afterwards Earl of Torrington. He was a man of good character, and an indifferent lawyer, with "very high notions with relation to the King's prerogative."

had in them 5000, or, as some say, 10,000*l.* of Spanish coined and uncoined gold for some of our merchants in London, were robbed very lately near Guildford, by some sparks that no doubt had intelligence of the purchase beforehand; and it is notified that if the persons will produce and refund their prize, they shall have both his Majesty's pardon, and 500*l.* into the bargain. I have nothing else worth communicating, besides my desire of a line from you when you are at leisure, and that I am,

Sir,

Your's *de tout mon cœur.*

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue at the Custom-House in Dublin. Ireland.

XXXIX.

Family affairs.—Changes in the Law.—Promotions in the Church.—Duke of Albemarle, Governor of Jamaica, &c.

London, April 17th, 1686.

I HAD your's of the 9th inst. yesterday. The cargo of the yacht some arrived on

Thursday, and othersome yesterday. Honest Thomas Fairfax is here, I believe to little purpose; for his Majesty's determinations are like those of the Medes and Persians. Lord Ormond, and Ossory came last night. The Monke* showed me your brother Will's* obligation to Sam.* for 200*l.* I fear the value he puts upon it is not equal to expectation; however, I said all I could to enhance it. Phil is out of town till Monday—went on Thursday. I will dun hard but he shall do what you desire; and before the close of this, I hope to say something from Lord Ossory to you, but by what I could gather last night, he grows more shy than before of the Court. The usual discourse of the Duke's† in the country, I doubt will make him take cheque at the Court, which cannot be good for him, and I am sure will be very ill for his friends. I shall endeavour to drive out

* Philip, William, and Samuel Ellis, the three brothers of John.

† The old Duke of Ormonde, who was now disgusted with the Court.

all such imaginations. He designs to go to Badminton, after he has waited this following week.

Our Judges sit very loosely upon their benches: Jones going quite out, and Herbert gaining his warm place, which shows art; and Lutwich comes from Chester to be undone in the King's Bench; Nevill, newly made a Judge, pleaseth not, &c. I am very confident matters are brewing to break the neck of our great wide-mouthed, high-placed —— &c.; and as conjurors throw a dog or a cat to allay the Devil with, so he may be thrown as a choosing morsel to the next Parliament. Herbert has represented since his return from the western circuit, the disservice done by the management of the former circuit, and the rapine; and I am credibly told it works to admiration, and his dear friend, the thin great man at Whitehall, quits him. I hear little of Lord Montague, but I know long conferences are between Sunderland and Lady Northumber-

land,* lately come from France. Much work upon the anvil. Sir Phil Howard dead; and Duke of Albemarle in haste to be gone, having drunk himself out of this part of the world, and will sweat himself out of that, and the whole globe of earth. Your friend the poor Archbishop of York died on Sunday: either Sprat† goes thither, or to London, and

* Elizabeth Wriothesley, daughter of the Treasurer Southampton, and half sister of Lady Russell. She was first married to Josceline (Percy) last Earl of Northumberland, and secondly to Ralph Duke of Montagu.

† Thomas Sprat, Bishop of Rochester, a man of learning and abilities, and one of the minor poets. He was the friend and imitator of Cowley; and Pope's criticism upon his poetry was consequently fair, when he said "Sprat is a worse Cowley." He commenced his ecclesiastical career as chaplain to the Duke of Buckingham, whom he is said to have assisted in writing the Rehearsal. In politics he was too yielding and subservient to the Court; though he would not go the length that was required of him towards the end of James's reign. He died May 20, 1713. "His parts," says Burnet, "were very bright in his youth, and gave great hopes; but these were blasted by a lazy libertine course of life, to which his temper and goodnature carried him, without considering the duties or even decencies of his profession."

London maliciously removed. Parker,* that belonged to Marvell, to Rochester; and Cartwright I fear to Chester, who we hear is dead; and if not Parker, Patrick† to the aforesaid.

* Samuel Parker, who had been bred an Independent, but turned to the Church of England at the Restoration, in order to get preferment. He was a virulent and voluminous polemical writer, and was one of the basest tools of the Court. He was made Bishop of Oxford in 1686, and was subsequently forced, or rather attempted to be forced, upon the fellows of Magdalen College, as the President of that society, by a royal mandamus. The meaning of his belonging to Marvell is, that he had had a controversy with Andrew Marvell, who completely got the better of him by ridiculing some of his violent high-church works. Wood says, "that finding himself beaten in this cudgelling way by Marvell, his high spirit was abated for ever after." Swift remarks, as a proof of Marvell's superiority to his antagonist, "that Marvell's remarks on Parker continued to be read when the book which occasioned them was long ago sunk." Parker died in 1687, as it is said of a broken heart, from finding himself generally despised and detested.

† Dr. Simon Patrick, an eminent divine. He was at this time Dean of Peterborough. At the Revolution he was made Bishop of Chichester, and subsequently was translated to that of Ely. He died in 1707, aged 80. He was one of the most strenuous defenders of the Protestant religion during the reign of James, and was the person appointed by the King (together with Dr. Jane) to argue the points of reli-

Pray get the inclosed bills paid you if possible; and Sir Charles said he would pay ten pounds for his ensign. The Chief Baron goes out, and Atkins* in his room. Sir —— Pudsey is made a Judge, which I think robs Oxford of a Recorder, and the House of Commons of a considerable member. Hawley and Condon,

gion against Gifford and Godden, two Catholic priests, before Hyde Earl of Rochester, whom the King was very anxious to convert to his own faith. The result was the contrary to what James had hoped, and he is said to have remarked, having been himself present during the controversy, that "he never saw a bad cause so well, or a good one so ill maintained." Burnet says of Bishop Patrick, "He wrote much and well, and chiefly on the Scriptures. He was a laborious man in his function, of great strictness of life, but a little too severe against those who differed from him. But that was when he thought their doctrines struck at the fundamentals of religion. He became afterwards more moderate."

* Sir Edward Atkyns, Knt. one of the basest tools of the Court. He had long been a Baron of the Exchequer, and was now made Chief Baron of that Court in the room of Montagu. He must not be confounded with Sir Robert Atkyns, a Judge of the Common Pleas in the reign of Charles the Second, and displaced on account of his connexion with Lord Russell and the Whigs; who was an excellent constitutional lawyer; and whom King William made Chief Baron of the Exchequer.

two Irishmen, robbed the Dutch mail near Harwich of 10,000*l.* in foreign gold, and are taken. George Sympson's wife will pay you the bill. The King is going to Chatham next week: sends out speedily four men of war towards Cales, upon a representation of the merchants.

If Corbett ask for a note, send to Thomas Clerke for it.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

XL.

Miscellaneous news.

April 17th, 1686.

DEAR SIR,

I HEARTILY thank you for your last most kind letter, and hope the two that I had writ to you before, will sufficiently acquit us both of any unkindness each to other, in so long an omission of our former correspondence. It is not yet certain who shall succeed your

good Lord and patron in the Archbishoprick of York, though it is vulgarly rumoured as if London should go thither, Rochester to London, and the Dean of Ripon to Rochester. The Duke of Albemarle (upon the death of Sir Philip Howard) is, as I hear, declared Viceroy of Jamaica and all his Majesty's Leeward Islands. Two Irishmen that were concerned in his Majesty's Customs, are found to be the robbers of the mails I mentioned in my last, and are taken, and in Newgate. Your friend Benson (which I suppose is no news) is dead.

Mr. Jones came first to me to be supplied with money for passing the Bishop's letter, but we could then hear of no such thing, since he would have had 10*l.* of me for his own occasions, and showed me a letter from his brother for it upon your account; but because I had no advice from you in that matter, I declined it; so your money, as to that business, is still undisposed of. Prance is come in, but whether he has surrendered himself to confirm or retract his former evidence, I cannot be po-

sitive, but it is very probable that it is the latter.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue at Dublin, in Ireland.

XLI.

Lord Montagu and Lady Northumberland.—The King hunting.—Disturbance in a Chapel, and Lord Mayor reprimanded in consequence.—Scotch news.

London, April 20th, 1686.

I HAVE not much more to say to you than you would find in my last. Montagu's Lady Northumberland comes much to Court, is very kindly used by her Majesty, and very often visited by Lord Sunderland; so that whether only a Duchess-ship will fall on her alone, or her Lord will share in the honour, begins to seem a question. My Lord of Ormonde hath devolved all his right and title to my Lord Ossory, of my poor Lord's * estate. How far Lady Arran will agree to an administration of his choosing, is doubtful. I am very uncertain as

* Lord Arran.

to my seeing you on your side, therefore heartily wish I could see you on this, wherein I assure myself you as heartily join, but whilst this term lasts I am in no danger of stirring. I am thrusting many irons into the fire, and hope some may be pulled out to the warming my fortune. This week, Lord Ossory waits. The King hunted to-day, but goes not to Chatham according to his design this week. I will urge what may be done for your service before the camp sit down at Hownslow-heath.

On Sunday at Stamford's Chapel came in a heedless prentice, where being laughing and staring, an officer of it bade him go out, since he appeared not by his behaviour to be of that religion. He said he would not go out, and if they said much to him, he would break their crosses and juggling-boxes down; whereupon a riot seemed to form; a Constable was charged with him, and the Militia officer on the guard called, but between them the fellow in fault slipped away; yet not so far but he watched the outcoming of either the priest, or an appendix of the Chapel, and beat and drag-

ged him through the kennel. The Lord Mayor was yesterday called before the Council upon it, and told, if he kept not the peace better, the King would send some of his regiments to do it, and in the mean time, that the negligent Militia officer be taken and secured to answer the law.

Duke of Hamilton gone for Scotland. He hath undertaken to take away the penal laws, and for an exercise of every man's conscience in his family. I believe Lord Arran* will have

* James fourth Duke of Hamilton, called Earl of Arran during the lifetime of his father. He was a man of considerable consequence in his day, but his name has been transmitted to posterity principally on account of his tragical death in a duel with Lord Mohun, which took place in Hyde Park on the 15th of November, 1712. Lord Mohun and the Duke had married two nieces of Gerard Earl of Macclesfield, which had occasioned disputes and a suit in Chancery between them, with regard to the succession of that nobleman. At a meeting at the Chambers of Mr. Orlebar, the Master in Chancery, the Duke objected to the testimony of Mr. Whitworth, Lady Gerard's steward, and said, he had neither truth nor justice in him. To this Lord Mohun replied, "I know Mr. Whitworth is an honest man, and has as much truth as your Grace." This occasioned the duel, in which both were killed. The violent party feelings of the day, and the indifferent character of Lord Mohun, enabled the Tories to get up a story, that

the Duke of Newcastle's* daughter, though Feversham† be his rival.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

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the Duke had come by his death unfairly, by the hand of General Macartney, Lord Mohun's second; for which, however, there appears to have been not the slightest foundation. Swift calls the Duke "a frank, honest, good-natured man." Macky says of him, "He is brave in his person, with a rough air of boldness; of good sense, very forward and hot for what he undertakes, ambitious and haughty, and a violent enemy." And Parnell observes, in speaking of his death,

"What courage, sense, and faith, with Brandon fell!"

* Henry (Cavendish) second and last Duke of Newcastle of that family. His only son, Henry Earl of Ogle, betrothed to the great Percy heiress, died at six years old, and his succession in consequence devolved on his daughters. His two eldest daughters, the mad Duchess of Albemarle and Montagu, and Lady Frances, married to the second Earl of Breadalbane, left no issue; consequently the third daughter Margaret, married to John (Holles) fourth Earl of Clare, became the principal heiress. She had an only daughter and heiress married to Edward Lord Harley. The issue of this marriage was again an only daughter, married to the Duke of Portland, and who thereby brought the great Cavendish inheritance into the Bentinck family. It is probably of Frances, the second daughter, that it is question here.

† Lewis de Duras, Marquis de Blanquefort in France,

XLII.

Mr. Benson's death, &c.

Whitehall, 22d April, 1686.

SIR,

I HAVE the favour of yours of the 7th instant, and did let Sir R. Southwell know that

brother of the Marshals de Duras and de Lorges in France, and nephew of the great Turenne. The family was a Protestant one, and Lord Feversham always continued in that faith, though his brothers, the two Marshals, both became Catholics. He came to England shortly after the Restoration, and was made Captain of the Guard to James, then Duke of York, with whom he always continued much in favour. In 1672, he was created Lord Duras of Holdenby, an estate in Northamptonshire, which had been given him by the Duke of York. In 1677 he succeeded his father-in-law, George Sondes Earl of Feversham in that title, and also in a portion of his estates. That nobleman's two sons had come to tragical ends; the elder, George Sondes, having been murdered in his bed by his younger brother, Freeman Sondes, for which crime the latter was hanged on Penenden Heath, in Kent, in 1655. His succession in consequence devolved upon his two daughters, of whom the eldest married Duras, and the second Lewis Watson, Earl of Rockingham. Lord Feversham was employed by James against Monmouth, and succeeded in the expedition in spite of his own faults, only through the still greater faults of his enemy. He had also the command of the army when the Prince of Orange landed. He died s. p. in 1709. Burnet says, "He was an honest, brave, and good-natured man, but weak to a degree not easy to be conceived."

you had his, and as soon as you could, would send him an answer to it.

When the person you mention brings me the fifty pounds you say he will, I will receive it for your use.

Mr. Benson had a hectic fever: he told me his distemper was an inflammation of the lungs. He was sensible to the last, and died gaping.

I saw your cousin Mr. J. Ellis lately, and he is well. I did not tell him you asked about him, though some time before, on occasion, he told me that you had the Gazette by some other hand than his.

It is not yet said who shall succeed the Archbishop of York. I am with all respect,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

PHIL. MADOX.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland, at Dublin.

XLIII.

Affairs of the Ellis family.—Law changes.—Riot at a Catholic Chapel.—The King gone to Chatham, &c.

London, April 27th, 1686.

I HAD yours of the 16th, per Mr. Lowze. You were in the right; Phil's letter was inclosed to me per the packet that was so long wanting: and he had it immediately, as also those since. I had a long discourse with him the other day, and he seems to catch at this subterfuge, that you desired him to name you to the King without requesting any thing in your favour, only to try the King's opinion, and better it if need were, but that when you had occasion for his Majesty's favour, you would ask it by greater hands, which he says ties up his from asking. I know not what professions Will has made to him, either as to the state of his faith or fortune, but this I am sure, implicit faith weighs down the scale, if he were my brother; and for an example, we find the other day Nevill Paine made Receiver

of the King's fines in the Common Pleas, under the Duke of Grafton, for no other reason but because he is a professor of that faith, and has two days weekly of devotional retirement, which is not impoliticly so spent as to outward show, be the unseen actions what they will. Lord Ossory is very shy, and diffident of the credit I hope he has amongst the great men. The Gazettes would show you my mistake as to the Chief Justice Herbert: he thought he had done himself considerable service, but found it was underhand castrated of a principal part of the profit, so he withdrew to his seat again. Here are a new set of judges and serjeants, such as they are: for their names I refer you to the Gazette, and for their virtues to those that know them better. Solicitor-General* was put out on Saturday, and Powis† in his room, a very young counsellor, but a cozen and careful

* Heneage Finch, second son of Heneage Earl of Nottingham, and eventually himself created by Queen Anne, Lord Guernsey, and by George the First, Earl of Ailesford. He was made Solicitor General in 1678. He was the principal counsel of the Seven Bishops on their trial.

† Burnet calls him "a compliant young aspiring lawyer."

man in Christian causes. The Attorney* is threatened, but yet keeps within the bar. Many more new matters are let fly abroad, to see how they will relish that they may be given to chew, which in due time you shall hear. On Sunday, the London hot-heads were bantering Mr. Sandford's chapel, got away a cross and set it up by a pump, paying a very disorderly adoration to it with hollowing, and then going back and taking a crucifix, and saying they would have no wooden gods worshipped there, frighting the priest but not hurting him. Then comes the Lord Mayor, and commands the peace: the answer was in a scornful way, "What! is the Lord Mayor of our city come to preach up Popery? no, sure it cannot be." Then the guard Militia was ordered to send the rabble away; and, asking what they meant, the answer, was "Only pulling down

* Sir Robert Sawyer, who had been subservient to the court, but would not go the length of the dispensing power, and was therefore soon after this displaced. Roger North gives a very flattering character of this lawyer, who was related to Lord Keeper Guilford.

Popery;" and their return was, " If that be all, we cannot in conscience hinder:" but vespers not going on in the chapel, they dispersed. By next Sunday more matter may occur. The King went hence on Monday his water voyage to visit the ships at Chatham, and returns not till Thursday; and I shall not wonder if the Scotch regiment of guards, now quartering at Greenwich, be quartered in Cheapside before this week is out. More comes to my knowledge than the common talk of a letter will bear, or than ordinary reason would put there. Twenty thousand swords lately seized in Stockton, in Yorkshire, and many people buzzing about; and from Holland, the Amsterdam caballers have sent spies that have very lately escaped here. I suspect old Maclesfeild* has

* Charles (Gerard) Earl of Macclesfield, so created 1679. He had been committed to the Tower with Lord Stamford, Lord Delamere, and his own son, Lord Brandon. He escaped from confinement, fled to Holland, and joined the Prince of Orange, to which circumstance this passage refers. His only son was Fitton Viscount Brandon, and after his father's death, Earl of Macclesfield, at whose death the titles extinguished in 1702.

put his blundering brains to work, and they will dash out his son's, if he have any: for it is not his fault, but father's flight, that keeps him in fetters. The Court cares not to stir hence till the latter end of May, and the King himself encamps with his army. I will say more as to yourself on Saturday.

Mr. Ellis.

Urge Thomas Allen, and Sir Charles Feilding for his ensign. Roger and Cornet Corbet to pay money.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

XLIV.

The King dines in Lord Dumbarton's tent.—Prance stands in the pillory.—Philip Ellis preaches before the King.

June 22d, 1686.

DEAR SIR,

I PROTEST I have no manner of pique to Sam; he and I are as kind and familiar as

ever; and I would serve him a great length (to use the Scotch expression) on his own account, and much farther upon your's: I mean to the utmost of my power; but it is impossible for me to do it in the way you propose. Indeed, if I had my own moneys in my own hands, I could go a great way to do what you desire; but my wife, who is Queen Regent (for I am always to be a minor under her, having not taken her down in her wedding shoes), did some time ago, upon a politic falling out on her side, prevail upon me, or else no reconciliation was to be had, to put the best part of my small stock into her brother's hands for her and her child, from whence there is no retrieving it:—so as she has divested me of the power of serving my friend, she has eased me of the care and trouble of improving it for her. And though I doubt not but there are many who know your worth and integrity, that would do you such a courtesy, were you here to request it of them, and that the witnesses were easy to be had to Westminster if there were occasion,

(pardon me that I speak in this case to my best friend as a stranger,) yet at this distance the difficulties and objections that they make are not readily to be answered. The King, they say, dined in the camp, and in my Lord Dunbarton's* tent, the other day, where, after his and the Queen's health had gone round, his Majesty was pleased to renew his kindness to the Church of England, by beginning a health to it as established by law. The judgment in the case of Sir Edward Hales† is gone for his Majesty; and one of the arguments and reasons for it, as I am told, is, that what the act enjoins in that case being a service or ceremony relating to his Majesty, he may in his prerogative

* Lord George Douglas, third son of William first Marquis of Douglas, created Earl of Dumbarton in Scotland by Charles the Second. On the accession of James, he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the forces in Scotland, and defeated the Earl of Argyll's invasion. He followed the fortunes of James when he abdicated, and died a Lord of his Bedchamber at St. Germain, in 1692. He was a Roman Catholic.

† For an account of Sir Edward Hales, and his trial, see note on Letter of March 27th, 1686, page 85.

royal dispense with it. Prance has already stood once in the pillory, and I do not question but the rest of the sentence will be executed upon him. The French King, as one told me he heard the other day, has seized Tangier with 6000 men, and intends to bring an army of 25,000 more thither, and so to march into the country and besiege Tetuan, and, it may be believed, to conquer, if he can, the whole country, and be King or Emperor of Africk. Your brother Philip is the great pulpit man of that party: he preached before the King last Sunday at Windsor, where, they say, he condemned us all for lost that die out of the pale of their church. This, I say, I am told, but having never found him in any such strain in his other sermons, I am unwilling to believe it.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the
Commissioners of His Majesty's
Revenue at the Custom-House in
Dublin. Ireland.

XLV.

The writer closeted with the King.—The Army at Hounslow.

London, June 26th, 1686.

DEAR SIR,

YOUR'S of the 15th came the 23d to hand, when I was just going to Windsor to drive the affair of carriages. The King took me into his closet, and read the whole proposal over with great attention, because the burden of the song was upon the increase of his revenue. He said he would give it to-day to my Lord Treasurer, and send me to him for a farther discourse upon it. I have great hopes of it; and I went yesterday to Mr. Strong, and showed him the whole proposal: he liked it, but would not embark in a new thing, having so just pretences to more settled and sure advantages. He says he has a mind to lie by and try his nets; and if the weather were fairer on your side, had rather be there than elsewhere. He made an observation that I think a very good one, and may be a good

help in the matter. On Tuesday I hope to discourse Lord Treasurer at large, and you shall know the result of it. You and I, and Will Holford, shall be three I propose for Commissioners, though, if Mr. Strong would have given me leave, he should have been the first, and either Will Holford or I Receiver. If Will Robinson's affairs were settled in Ireland, I should have been glad he had been in. I am sure, as I have put the fees, they cannot be under a 1000*l.* a year apiece. Talk with him, and know how matters stand. All the army is now at Hownslow, in a line of 2930 paces, about 16,000 strong. On Wednesday the great review is. The King does really harass himself so, that I fear he wastes beyond what can be imagined. Duke of Norfolk* surrendered, and

* Henry (Howard) seventh Duke of Norfolk. He had been, in 1685, appointed Colonel of the 12th regiment of foot, which he now resigned in consequence of his disapproval of the measures of the Court. He was a zealous Protestant. Burnet tells the following anecdote of him. "One day the King gave the Duke of Norfolk the sword of state to

Earl of Lichfeild* succeeds. George Bennyon and young Binns are declared Papists, and Thomas Sheridan. Young Middleton gets not his Lieutenant-Colonelship yet, though long hotly discoursed. The Scotch Commissioner, expected to-night, will be reprimanded, I imagine, for being over-witted, and letting them have pudding when they would not sup their porridge. You would hear on Tuesday of how small moment my Lord Chief Justice thought the test,

carry before him to the chapel; and he stood at the door. Upon which the King said to him, 'My Lord, your father would have gone farther.' To which the Duke answered, 'Your Majesty's father was the better man, and he would not have gone so far." His wife was Lady Mary Mordaunt, sole heiress of Henry Earl of Peterborough, from whom he was divorced, and she afterwards married Sir John Germaine.

* Edward Henry (Lee) first Earl of Lichfield, so created in 1674, as a reward for having married Charlotte Fitzroy, natural daughter of Charles the Second, by the Duchess of Cleveland. He was in much favour during the reign of James, and remained steadily attached to his interests after his abdication, though he did not follow him to the Continent. The family continued more or less Jacobites, till they extinguished in the male line about half a century ago.

and how far the King's dispensing power went, instancing it in the affair of Sheriffs, where the law was positive they should not serve two years together.

Canary, Admiral of Argier,* and his fleet of eight men of war, came to anchor at the Spithead near Portsmouth, on Sunday, and three Dutch prizes, two wool, one salt. Writ to the King for leave to sell them, but was denied, though promised a just preservation of his peace with them however, if their intentions are good. That the event be not bad, Sir Roger Strickland† and his three guard ships of the Downs were ordered immediately to fall down and lie in sight of them. Count Stirr is out with sixteen sail of Dutch, towards the Streights' mouth: to be sure, upon news they are this way, they will make up. Our seamen say, if

* The old name for Algiers.

† Strickland was a Roman Catholic, who had been promoted by James on account of his religion. He had some priests always on board with him, who said mass. This so disgusted the sailors, that, in 1688, the King was obliged to remove him, and appoint Lord Dartmouth in his place.

they get out they will sail quite away to the northward, and take their chance; for they dare not go back, for fear of falling into the Belgian lion's claws.

You say nòthing what Clarke has done in Dean Jones's affair, which I most fear; however, I hope he has proceeded roundly, and rather arrested him upon Thomas Sisson's judgment, than my counter-security. Pray be particularly inquisitive into it, and press it as I desire. Corbett's note was 31*l.*, but your's only mentions 21*l.* I wonder Thomas Allen makes not up his account. I have sent you it, I think, right; what exceptions he makes cannot be many. Pray urge Sir Charles Feilding once more in the 10*l.*: I deserve it at his hands, I am sure. Sell the horses if possible, or send them hither to any will be careful. Exchange is high, therefore I desire not any money yet.

I am glad to hear Jack is so well held: he has to deal with Turks that will trample on his neck whenever he lays it down, therefore he takes the best course.

Thomas Allen's Account.

	l.	s.	d.
Had in his own hands	10	05	06
Received since of Deane Syng	03	08	00
Of Aunt Eustace	05	16	06
Of Mr. Thomas Anderson . .	16	08	00
In all . .	35	18	00
Paid, Mr. Colcott's order .	04	00	00
The Balance .	31	18	00

Our Parliament is designed to sit in November; and when the army goes into garrison, several new Governors will be placed about: Lord Widdrington* at Berwick, Lord Fairfax† at York, Poole at Chester, Dunbarton Portsmouth. These are whispers, but that side, upon the least hopes, cannot hold their tongues,

* William second Lord Widdrington.

† This was probably Nicholas third Viscount Fairfax, of the kingdom of Ireland. This branch of the noble family of Fairfax was settled at Gilling Castle in the county of York.

though they reckon half promises whole ones. This I only tell you as the joyful emotions of their transported spirits.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. At Dublin.

XLVI.

Death of Sir William Coventry.—Destructive Fire.—Duke of Ormonde expected.

London, June 30th, 1686.

DEAR SIR,

I PROMISED to write to you to-day, but my Lord Treasurer* will not be here till late, and I shall not have time to say any thing to him till Thursday. I have discoursed Will Shaw, who promises kind things, and likes the matter, but tells me a considerable branch, viz. Hackney coaches, are towards settlement already, being now under the consideration of the Attorney-general. As matters go, you

* Lord Rochester.

shall hear, but I am almost afraid all will stop till Michaelmas, because on Saturday the Council adjourns till then, and on Monday Lord Treasurer goes to Tunbridge.

I forgot a considerable business in Thomas Allen's account, viz. 14*l.* or 16*l.* paid W. Robinson for chimney-pieces, which you are to add and subtract.

Sir Will Coventry* died at Tunbridge on Friday. Left Lord Halifax, Weymouth,†

* Sir William Coventry was the fourth and youngest son of Thomas first Lord Coventry, Lord Keeper. He held several considerable offices in the early part of the reign of Charles the Second, and died at Somerhill, near Tunbridge, June 23d, 1686. He was a man of eminent talents; and, though a courtier and a minister, had a great reputation for sincerity and integrity. He withdrew from public business in consequence of a quarrel he had with the Duke of Buckingham, whom he challenged. The Duke, who upon such occasions was always pacific, replied by an order to Coventry not to appear at court.

† Thomas Thynne, created Viscount Weymouth in 1682. He was a man of consideration in his day, both for good sense and integrity, and was one of the principal promoters of the Revolution. He died July 28th, 1714.

Francis Coventry,* James Thynne,† his executors, two married, two unmarried nephews.

The fire soused fourteen houses near Will Shaw's, Park-place. Justice M'Carty lost all but his wife; Sir Hugh Tent, a great loser; Su. Willis and Mrs. Heneage escaped very narrowly being over-heated. To-morrow the great review. Lord Duke of Ormonde comes from Badminton the end of the week, and Lord Ossory hither ten days after, by which time I will move either towards you or northward, as some affairs ply that are upon the anvil. I trouble not the *Belle Vieuve*; she is perfectly cooped up at Sheene.

Yours, J. H.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

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* Francis Coventry was second son of Lord Keeper Coventry, and consequently elder brother of Sir William. He married successively three wives, and died in 1699, at the age of eighty-seven.

† James Thynne, brother of Lord Weymouth, Member of Parliament for Cirencester.

XLVII.

Reports of illness of Prince of Orange.

London, July 3d, 1686.

I HAD yours of the 28th yesterday, and am sorry to hear the Dean is bailed; I thought upon judgment the money was always paid: he is a very varlet of a clergyman to deny any part of the account, as Alley Clarke tells me he has. Lord Treasurer cannot be spoke with till Wednesday next. Your Commissioner stands firm, notwithstanding Lincolne, Trant, Hackett, &c. and the King's favourable inclination to do on your side the water what the Earl of Tyrconnell thinks fit. I have strong hopes of this affair of the Carriers. Phil does nothing, and I think can only be bold. What if you writ to the Treasurer yourself, and Lord Ossory second it; he returns with Lord Ormonde next week hither. He can be no loser by it if denied: he is for sending you Strong over again. One Clarke, a very fit man, is made Commissioner of the Customs here in

impudent Sir Nic. Butler's room: the devil to do amongst them, impeaching, &c. He is turned red since he was turned out. I wonder what the King can think of such fellows.

We want four packets from Holland, and now it is whispered the Prince of Orange is dying by poison, God forbid. Holford has been gone these ten days: I expect him every hour, the wind being fair.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

XLVIII.

Foreign news.—Sir W. Coventry's bequests.—Dr. Sharp at Windsor, &c.

3d July, 1686.

The trenches before Buda were opened the $\frac{12}{22}$ June: three attacks are to be under the Elector of Bavaria, the Brandenburgh troops, and General Starenberg. The next day, fourteen boats, laden with all the choice

wealth of the town, and guarded by 1000 Spahis, were seized in their escape down the river. They have gotten, it may be, more than Pilkington * did by his liberty and releasement

* The account of Pilkington's trial is thus given by Burnet in his account of the year 1682: "Pilkington was Sheriff of London the former year; an honest but an indiscreet man, that gave himself great liberties in discourse. He being desired to go along with the Mayor and Aldermen to compliment the Duke † on his return from Scotland, declined going, and reflected on him as one concerned in the burning of the city. Two Aldermen said they heard that, and swore it against him. Sir Patience Ward, the Mayor of the former year, seeing him go into that discourse, had diverted him from it, but heard not the words which the others swore to: And he deposed, that to the best of his remembrance he said not those words. Pilkington was cast in 100,000*l.* damages, the most excessive that had ever been given. But the matter did not stop there: Ward was indicted of perjury, it being said, that since he swore that the words were not spoken, and that the jury had given a verdict upon the evidence that they were spoken, by consequence he was guilty of perjury. It was said on the other side, that when two swear one way, and a third swears another way, a jury may believe the two better than the one: But it is not certain from thence that he is perjured: If that were law, no man would be a witness; if, because they of the other side were believed, he should be therefore convicted of perjury. A man's swearing to a negative, that such words were not spoken, did only amount to this, that

† James the Second.

from a 100m. pounds at the request of my Lord Dartmouth's: so that he spoke *a word in season,* (and Solomon rather admires than defines *how good it is!*) when he favoured that noble Lord in the House of Commons.

Sir William Coventry's charity is much talked of; he gave in his lifetime 2000*l.* and by his will 3000*l.* more, for redemption of captives, and 2000*l.* to the refuged Protestants.

Dr. Sharp* was at Windsor, but his petition

he did not hear them: and it would be hard to prove that he who swore so had heard them. But Ward proved by him that took the trial in short hand, as he had done some others with great approbation, that he had said, *to the best of his remembrance these words were not spoken by Pilkington:* Upon which Jefferies had said, that his invention was better than his memory: And the Attorney-General in summing up the evidence to the jury had said, they ought to have no regard to Ward's evidence, since he had only deposed upon his memory. Yet that jury returned Ward guilty of perjury: And it was intended, if he had not gone out of the way, to have set him on the pillory. The truth is, juries became at that time the shame of the nation, as well as a reproach to religion: For they were packed, and prepared to bring in verdicts as they were directed, and not as matters appeared on the evidence."

* On the 2d of May, 1686, Dr. Sharp had preached a sermon in his church of St. Giles's, reflecting on the new

could not be received. Young Canary hath been scouring in the Channel for some time, but was not permitted to sell his prizes in our ports. The article of the treaty allows us to do so in Algier, but is not reciprocal; yet Canary would assert it ought to be understood so, though it was not expressed so, and went home in a huff. I am told my namesake has got back to his cage again at Oxford, for which I thank you, and Mr. May, though I believe two days farther voyage would have made him weary of travelling, and taught him how to value Old England.

converts to the Roman Catholic faith. This gave so much displeasure at court, that on the 17th of June, a Royal Mandate was issued to Compton Bishop of London, to suspend the preacher. The Bishop refused to do this, but prevailed upon Sharp to write a petition to the King, expressing his sorrow for the offensive constructions which had been put upon his expressions, and promising for the future to be more guarded. This is the petition alluded to in the text, which was not even allowed to be read at Windsor. Shortly after this, both Compton and Sharp were suspended from the exercise of their functions by the ecclesiastical commission. In January 1687, Dr. Sharp was restored to his parishioners, by the removal of the suspension.

Pray some account of Lord Tyrconel's changes; and at your leisure put my Lord of Longford in mind of his promise to my Lord Bulkeley, three years ago, about Will Price. It may be Mr. Commissioner Culliford and Mr. Commissioner Aubrey may befriend him too, if you mention my Lord Bulkeley.

You must thank yourself for the grossness of the inclosed.

Mr. Ellis.

XLIX.

Death of the Bishop of Oxford.

10th July, 1686.

SIR,

I THANK you for the favour of yours of the 2d instant, and have nothing to return you besides; never less true news, or more false reports. Sir Nicholas Butler is got again into the Customs, but after he had made his submissions in befitting manner to my Lord Treasurer, whom he had offended. But what is

worst news is, that the good Bishop of Oxford* died this morning between three and

* Dr. John Fell, Dean of Christ-church 1660, Bishop of Oxford 1675, which he held together with his Deanery. He was a great benefactor to Christ-church, laying out the greater part of his income in improving the buildings of the College. He rebuilt, entirely out of his own funds, the tower over the principal gateway of the great quadrangle, the lodgings of the Canons of the second and third stall, the East side of Chaplain's quadrangle, and the adjoining buildings fronting the meadow, which still bear his name. At his death he left a considerable estate to the College, to found a certain number of exhibitions. He was also a munificent patron of learning and men of letters. Wood says of him, that he was "the most zealous man of his time for the Church of England; a great encourager and promoter of learning in the University, and of all public works belonging thereunto; of great resolution and exemplary charity; of strict integrity; a learned divine; and excellently skilled in the Latin and Greek languages." And Burnet calls him "a man of much strictness in his course of life, and of much devotion." "And was in all respects indeed a most exemplary man, a little too much heated in the matter of our disputes with the Dissenters. But, as he was among the first of our clergy that apprehended the design of bringing in Popery, so he was the most zealous against it. He had much zeal for reforming abuses, and managed it perhaps with too much heat, and in too peremptory a way." He was succeeded in his bishopric by the unworthy Parker.

four. Who succeeds him I hear not. The Vice-Chancellor,* Dr. Hatton, is desperately ill, and the Act upon that and other accounts put off. We have nothing from Buda since the $\frac{10}{20}$ June.

I thank Mr. May for his civilities by the inclosed. I know nothing certain of some great changes talked of amongst our coffer-men: even some pretend to say and foresee, that the Treasury, or your Commission, will not stand long as they do.

Mr. Ellis.

L.

Proceedings of the Prince of Orange.—Sydney gone to him. —Death of Sir W. Soames.—Foreign news.

London, July 13th, 1686.

DEAR SIR,

ON Saturday last I went hence to Windsor from the camp; and yesterday noon the King called me to him, and asked if I had been

* Of Oxford.

with the Lord Treasurer, for he had given him my proposals. I said I would be with him this morning, though could not till to-morrow, for I came not hither till noon. I have the more willingly deferred speaking till I got Lord Ormond to speak a favourable word or two for me to the Treasurer, which yesterday morning he told me he had done; and I was with Will Shaw to-day, and in the morning he promiseth to introduce me. So stands this affair, but the Attorney's reference will not be got in less than a week. Sir William Boreman of the Greencloth is dead, and Mr. Sparrow succeeds, though several pretended obstinately George Bennion, from the hopes of a red-letter conscience; or Thomas Price, from the constant life he had led at Whitehall, though indeed he could not stir out of it without the danger of a prison. Poor Bishop of Oxon is dead, and we guessed at Windsor, Dr. Parker will succeed him in the Deanery and the Bishoprick in a year. The Romish factors are wonderful busy to fit and square their matters. The first fruits

and tenths will pinch our Churchmen severely, and all the artful ways taken that may be to bring them low. Lord Ossory and Lady are now to stay here. If it be possible, I will be on your side the end of next month; but I am sure of nothing, for this affair shall govern me, besides another of which I have said nothing to you, yet has no small hancke over me. The Prince of Orange encamps 25,000 men near Nimegen the beginning of next month, then makes a visit to Cleves. Harry Sydney* is gone hence in order to attend him thither, then go up into Germany, and return through Italy.

* Harry Sydney, called in his youth "the Handsome Sydney," and considered, according to the Court scandal, to have been a lover of Anne Hyde, Duchess of York, was the Englishman the most at this time in the confidence of the Prince of Orange. The intimacy had commenced in 1679, when he was sent Envoy to Holland. Burnet calls him "a man of a sweet and caressing temper, who had no malice in his heart, but too great a love of pleasure." He was the son of Robert second Earl of Leicester, and younger brother of Philip the third Earl, and of Algernon Sydney. William created him, in 1689, Baron of Milton, and Viscount Sydney of the Isle of Shepey; and in 1694, Earl of Romney. He died in 1704 unmarried.

Sir William Soalmes died at Malta in his way to Constantinople: the next question will be who succeeds. We have four vessels going into the Streights, which Killigrew commands. The King has given the Admiral of Sally his liberty to go home: used him, now at Windsor, with much civility, and has had him carried to Chatham to see all our great ships. Buda will speedily be taken, for there are no more than about 8000 men in it, and they have made a sort of mutinous demand to their Bassa (and he has been forced to comply), which shows what the end of them will be.

Here are many cabals and councils of all hands. Ferguson in all probability alive, from a late book's coming abroad of the late King's villanies called, so foul-mouthed that varlet will still continue.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland,
Ireland. At Dublin.

LI.

Appointment of Ecclesiastical Commission, and Members of it.—Several Lords made Privy Councillors.

17th July, 1686.

In return for your kind letter of the 7th, I have not much to send you worthy your curiosity. What takes up most men here is a new Commission that his Majesty hath issued out, whereby he is pleased to constitute seven Lords Commissioners for executing and exercising all Ecclesiastical jurisdiction,* viz. the

* "The King and his Popish Council were extremely offended with this boldness,† and therefore, to force the Protestant Clergy to submission, the King erected a new Court for Ecclesiastical affairs, composed of various members, among whom were several Catholics. A nomination of Papists to be judges of a Protestant Clergy in matters of doctrine and discipline, showed that the King would no longer keep any measures. Among these Commissioners were three Bishops, namely, William Sancroft of Canterbury, Crew of Durham, and Sprat of Rochester. The rest were all laymen, of which the principal were, Jefferies Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Rochester Lord Treasurer, the Earl of Sunderland Secre-

† Of preaching what he did not like.

Lord Archbishop of Canterbury,* Bishop of

tary of State and President of the Council, and the Lord Chief Justice Herbert. The Commission was directed to any three of them, whereof the Lord Chancellor was always to be one, for a reason very obvious."

"Many of the best lawyers thought this Commission illegal, and contrary to the Act passed in the seventeenth year of Charles the First, for abolishing the High Commission Court. Others pretended there was nothing in it contrary to that Act. It seems, however, that the Court was conscious of its illegality, since, though it was granted in April, it was not opened till August. Besides, the Archbishop would never act in it."—Rapin.

* William Sancroft, a divine of considerable learning and eminence, made Archbishop of Canterbury in 1677. He attended Charles the Second on his death-bed, and exhorted him with great freedom and earnestness upon that occasion. He refused to sit upon the Ecclesiastical Commission, to which he was appointed by James, and was, in 1688, one of the Seven Bishops sent to the Tower. At the Revolution he refused to take the oaths to William and Mary, and was consequently deprived of his Archbishopric. He retired to his native village of Fresingfield, in Suffolk, where he died November 24th, 1693. He appears to have been a man of strict integrity, and great piety—too timorous at first in his opposition to the unwarrantable designs of the Court, which was probably occasioned by his overstrained notions of loyalty. Profane as the offices for Charles the Martyr and the Restoration now appear to us, from the manner in which they turn

Durham,* and Bishop of Rochester,† Lord Chancellor,‡ Lord Treasurer,§ Lord President,|| and Lord Chief Justice Herbert. They have power and authority to visit and correct all offences, to inquire of any misdemeanours against the ecclesiastical laws, and to punish the same

scripture and prayer into vehicles of groundless and disgusting adulation, they were not high-flown enough for Sancroft. Burnet informs us that he drew up some that went much farther, "but others of a more moderate strain were preferred to them." On his death-bed Sancroft was visited by Mr. Needham, one of his former chaplains, who had taken a very different view of the Revolution from that of the Archbishop. Sancroft received him very affectionately, and said, in reference to politics, "You and I have gone different ways in these late affairs; but I trust Heaven's-gates are wide enough to receive us both. What I have done, I have done in the integrity of my heart!"

* Crewe. "Durham," says Burnet, "was lifted up with being in the Commission, and said, now his name would be recorded in history; and when some of his friends represented to him the danger of acting in a Court so illegally constituted, he said he could not live if he should lose the King's gracious smiles: so low and so fawning was he."

† Sprat. He at first acted with the Commission, but afterwards withdrew himself from it.

‡ Jefferies. § Earl of Rochester.

|| Earl of Sunderland.

offenders by suspension, deprivation, excommunication, and other Church censures, according as they in justice shall think meet; to examine into all irregularities and immoralities punishable by Church laws, and even into *disorders in marriages;* and to call before them and punish any offenders, or *any that shall seem to be suspected persons;* to cite and swear witnesses; to punish the obstinate and disobedient; to tax and condemn in costs the party prosecuting or prosecuted; to have a Register (who is Mr. Bridgman), and a Common Seal, with the circumscription of *Sigillum Dominorum Commissariorum S. R. Majestatis ad Causas Ecclesiasticas.* For all this, *three* are to be the *quorum*, whereof the Lord Chancellor to be one. They are farther to cause all Universities, Colleges, Cathedral and Collegiate Churches, to bring up their charters and statutes, &c. when required, and the same to alter as they see cause, and to add to or diminish from the same, and where there is none, to make such statutes, as any five of them shall

think meet, notwithstanding any laws, statutes, &c. to the contrary. This is the purport of it as far as I can remember.

We know not yet who succeeds the Bishop of Oxford. Drs. South,* Hooper,† Aldridge,‡

* Robert South, an eminent divine of those days, whose talents were of the highest order. He was originally a Presbyterian, but left that party when the events shortly subsequent to the Restoration had proved it to be a falling one. He appears to have been a very mixed character—charitable and generous, but time-serving and quarrelsome. At the same time the unfavourable account given of him by Wood, should be received with reserve, as Wood certainly had taken a violent and unwarrantable dislike to him. He died, aged eighty-three, July 8th, 1716.

† Dr. George Hooper, successively, during the reign of William, Bishop of St. Asaph, and of Bath and Wells. Busby, the celebrated master of Westminster, observed of him in early life, "That he was the best scholar, the finest gentleman, and would make the completest Bishop that ever was educated at Westminster School." He was, by the confession of Burnet, a learned man; though the same author accuses him of ambition, from which vice he appears to have been entirely free. He would seem to have been too much addicted to high-church principles and politics, but to have been in the main a virtuous and well-intentioned man. He was a voluminous writer on theological subjects. He died at the advanced age of eighty-seven, September 6th, 1727.

‡ Henry Aldrich, afterwards at the Revolution made Dean

Levett,* and Dr. Parker are talked of. The last stands fair with the King, and is now at Court. Lords of Powys,† Arundell,‡ Bellasis,§

of Christ Church. He was a most accomplished scholar, a sound divine, an eminent musician, and an architect of merit. In the last capacity he built the Chapel of Trinity College, Oxford, All Saints Church in the same city, and three sides of Peckwater Quadrangle in Christ-church. As a musician he was the composer both of the words and music of the well-known catch, "Hark the bonny Christ-church Bells." He wrote much, and edited more, but his most celebrated work is his "Elements of Logic." He died December 14th, 1710.

* Dr. William Levett, Dean of Bristol, and Principal of Magdalen Hall, Oxon.

† William (Herbert) third Lord Powis. Created an Earl by Charles the Second, and a Marquis by James, in whose favour he stood high on account of his profession of the old religion. He followed the fortunes of James on his abdication, and was by him eventually created Marquis of Montgomery and Duke of Powis. He died at St. Germain en Laye, March 24th, 1696, and was buried in the parish church of that place.

‡ Henry third Lord Arundell of Wardour, was a Catholic, and had been in consequence committed to the Tower in 1678, on the perjured evidence of Titus Oates. James the Second made him Privy Seal.

§ John, second son of Sir Thomas Bellasyse, first Viscount Fauconberg, was created Lord Bellasyse of Worlaby in 1644. He served the King with great gallantry during the civi

and Dover, are said to be this day admitted of the Council at Hampton Court.

Mr. Ellis.

LII.

London, 22d July, 1686.

DEAR SIR,

THE chiefest part of this is to desire you to send the inclosed as soon as it comes to hand. I am just taking horse for Windsor; and if I find occasion, shall go on to Newbury, where the Attorney-General is,* for his report, having got at last a reference from the Treasury. Besides a five guinea fee, I intend to promise his Honour the strengthening it with a hundred more upon the settlement of the affair; it might possibly be the damning of that other

wars, and was high in command at the battles of Edgehill, Newbury, and Naseby. James the Second made him first Lord of the Treasury. Being a Catholic, he had also suffered during the infamous persecutions of the Popish plot. He died in 1689.

* Sir Robert Sawyer.

of the Hackney coaches, this omission. My haste necessitates me to desire you to have recourse to others for news. All our councils seem bent in favour of the Catholic cause.

Yours.

Your last that came to hand was of the 5th of last month.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

LIII.

German news.—Sir William Trumbull to go Ambassador to Constantinople.

24th July, 1686.

The last I had the favour of from you is of the 7th, which I think I acknowledged this day sevennight. Three German posts came in now late at night, so that I have scarce time to send one extract of a bloody attack at Buda, the $\frac{3}{13}$ instant. I send it Mr. Melvill, who will communicate to you; I trouble him also

with a letter to my Lord of Granard, from Buda. Sir William Trumbull* is, upon *his own desire,* to go Ambassador to Constantinople. We know not who succeeds as yet in Oxon, Chester, or Christ-church: Dr. South is named for the first, as Dr. Aldridge is given out for the Deanery, and Dr. Jefferys for Chester. Lord Montague hath kissed the King's hand.

Mr. Ellis.

LIV.

The Queen dines with Lord Arran.—King's intended progress.—Scotch news.—Intrigues of the Priests at Court.

London, July 27th, 1686.

We have many packets due here; none since Friday was sevennight. My Lord Ormond

* Sir William Trumbull was an eminent civilian, diplomatist, and statesman; and also the friend and patron of most of the men of letters of his time, and especially of Dryden and Pope. In 1685, he went Ambassador to France, where he remonstrated with so much freedom and force against the revocation of the edict of Nantes, that he was soon recalled. He then was sent Ambassador to the Ottoman Porte, where he continued till 1691. On his return,

stays here in expectation; my poor Lord's concern is the chief cause of it. I was at Windsor last week, and was once in the mind to have carried the reference of the Carriages to the Attorney-General, but was kept back, and resolve to let it sleep till after Michaelmas. Your great Lord Tyrconnell we expect here next month to turn his pancake, for we are assured he only thinks it enough on one side yet. High doings at court and camp: the officers all ready to look out for purchases; but they must keep in the high-ways for them, inclosures being too high for them. His Majesty, as a piece of gallantry, made all his 4000 horse march at two in the morning into Staines Meadow, and attend the Queen from thence to the Heath, where she honoured Lord Arran* with dining with him. But his Sacred designs a farther graciousness in a few days, viz. to go and let all his good

William the Third made him Secretary of State. He finally retired from public life in 1697, and fixed his residence at his country seat of East Hampstead, in Berkshire, where he died December 14, 1716.

* Afterwards Duke of Hamilton.

friends of Bristoll, Taunton, and the towns about see him, and judge how decent an attendance 4000 men at arms are. The Chancellor* of Scotland stays here to take Lord Middleton† down with him President of the Council of that kingdom; poor Middleton hangs back, thinking of Cleveland's judgment, and of Cain's doom. The chief reason is to admit Lord Montague into his room, who is come in with the Jesuits, and will be Secretary. We little value the Austrian fashion, and keep close to the French. All our old bags are routing out to rig up a fleet against Spring; 5000 men at work in

* The Earl of Perth.

† Charles second Earl of Middleton, the son of the man who misgoverned Scotland so cruelly in the commencement of the reign of Charles the Second. He was now Secretary of State in England, whence his disinclination to accept the Scotch office, which he finally avoided, and kept his English one till the Revolution, when he followed the fortunes of his master. Macky says of this Lord Middleton, "he is one of the politest gentlemen in Europe; hath a great deal of wit, mixed with a sound judgment; of a very clear understanding; of an easy indifferent access; but a careless way of living."

the yards: the Hollanders see the storm and dread it, for we are much beforehand with them. When matters are riper, the Treasury will run into commission, and Powis preside. The Monk* and Jesuits pull hard, the first by the King's sleeve, the other by the Queen. I think they will shuffle out Pere Mansuete from Confessor to the King, and Peters the Jesuit get in, who is also made President of Whitehall new Chapel. Your brother and Marsh and Mansuete make a sort of triumvirate of it at present. Have a care how you let any of this be seen. The gazette will tell you foreign matter.

Lord Carlingford† will go General of our Holland forces, to better model them, and not let them stay long there.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

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* Philip Ellis.

† Nicholas (Taaffe) second Earl of Carlingford in Ireland. He was sent by James, in 1689, on an embassy to the Emperor Leopold, and was killed in the following year at the battle of the Boyne.

LV.

Expected changes.—Persecution of the Bishop of London.—Lord Salisbury taken by the Turks.

London, Aug. 7th, 1686.

For eight days past I have been in Hampshire at the Earl of Carlisle's;* and at my return found yours of the 19th of the last month. As for the horses, you cannot displease me, do what you will with them; take the money offered, whatever it is. Though I design seeing you the end of this month, and, in order to it, leave this town this day sevennight. I resolve to let the Carriers project lie quiet a while; for the Attorney-General comes not hither till the King do, which will be after Michaelmas. His Majesty hath laid aside the western visit, and sent his horse to winter quar-

* Edward (Howard) second Earl of Carlisle. He married Elizabeth, daughter and coheiress of Sir William Uvedale, Knight, of *Wickham*, in the county of Southampton. This place he became possessed of in right of his wife; and the writer of this letter had apparently been there on a visit to him.

ters. Lord Montague is much at Court, and goes Ambassador extraordinary into France, if Sir William Trumball will accept the Turkish Embassy. The Bishop of London is cited before the Vicar-general on Monday: we are in great expectation to know what his fine will be. Great intrigues afoot at Court, and the Parliament will sit and have a high speech. I was talking with Lord Ossory about you this afternoon: he said, my Lord Treasurer found you so useful where you were, that he would very unwillingly remove you. When Lord Ormond comes to town, I will see what he says in the matter. Phil says it may be a year hence he shall be abler to serve you than now: he is highly courted, and seems to have a great opinion of the interest he has in his master. After the Vicar-general has sat, the Council will on Monday, and the King comes on purpose. Lord Salisbury* is taken by the Turk,

* I cannot find any account of this transaction in the histories of the time, nor in the life of this Lord as given in Collins's Peerage. The individual who then bore the title of Salisbury, was James the fourth Earl, who had succeeded his

and carried captive to Argier, in his passage from Genoa to Legorne in a felucca. Sir Roger Strickland is going to Argier, to cancel the article of letting them send prizes into our ports.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

LVI.

Ecclesiastical Commissioners.—Libels against the Government.—Lord Montagu to succeed Sir William Trumbull at Paris.

7th Aug. 1686.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE now your favour of the 30th of last month to thank you for, and do it very heartily. You will now, I hope, speedily see

father in 1683. He was a convert to the Roman Catholic Religion; in consequence of which, and the consequent suspicions of jacobitism which attached to him, he fell into trouble at the Revolution, and was near being impeached by the House of Commons, for high treason. He died in 1694.

your friend Mrs. Price, who left us yesterday morning early much in affliction. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners meet again on Monday morning, and have cited the Bishop of London to appear before them then. Here are many scandalous pamphlets handed about the town against the Ministers and Government. Mr. Feilding tells me this evening, that Lord Mountague shall remove Sir William Trumbull, and have the character of Ambassador at that Court.* Mr. Keightley came to-day from Windsor, and is very well: he may perhaps tell you so tonight himself. I am very heartily sorry you should have the affliction of being ill or unkindly used by any person you have deserved well from; I am sure I cannot help thinking it one. My dear wife is still about the house, but we are every hour in expectation that she will increase the world: she desires me to send you her service, and so doth sister Clarke, who is at my elbow. Her husband is gone this evening to Windsor with his Grace; and there my

* Namely, the Court of Paris.

Lord Treasurer will be to-morrow, and here on Monday next. I am, with all the esteem and kindness that I have ever professed,

Dear Sir,

Your most affectionate humble servant,

. . .

Mr. J. Ellis.

Mr. Chudleigh hath leave to go into the country.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenues of Ireland.

Dublin.

LVII.

Bishop of London before the Ecclesiastical Commissioners — German news.

10th Aug. 1686

Yesterday, Lord Bishop of London appeared before the Commissioners, who told him he was to answer to this question, Why he disobeyed the King in not suspending Dr.

Sharp, when his Majesty commanded? His Lordship said, he hoped it was no disobedience to say, he could not do it without a judicial act. But the better to frame his answer, he desired he might have in, a copy of their Lordships' Commission, his charge in writing, and a time to answer to it.

1. The Lords told him, that no Courts granted copies of their commission, and that this had passed all the offices to the great seal, whence he might easily get a copy. 2. That there was no libel given in in this case, that the proceedings were as in the like cases *summariè* and *ore tenus*, and the charge being but a plain easy question, he might give it as plain an answer upon the place. 3. That they thought any long time to be unnecessary: however, that they would allow his Lordship till next Monday.

Buda* was not yet taken the 22d past. The

* Buda was not taken till the 2d of September of this year (1686), when the Duke of Lorraine obtained possession of it under the eyes of the Grand Vizier, and after a siege of forty-five days.

Duke of Lorraine* summoned the Bassa again to yield, and to send him the keys of the town, if he expected any mercy; the Bassa answered that he would do it, if the Emperor would make a peace, or would give him any two other places; but that otherwise he could not send the keys, since Buda was the key of Constantinople, which none kept but the Grand Seignior. Upon this they fell to blows, and the 24th or 25th the last, and probably the decisive assault was to be given.

Pray mind my Lord of Longford of his three years standing promise to my Lord Bulkeley about Will. Price.

The inclosed are all for the King's service.

Mr. Ellis.

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* Charles IV. or V., Duke of Lorraine, son of Duke Nicholas Francis. He was a commander of great merit; and was at this time generalissimo of the Imperial forces against the Turks.

LVIII.

Farther particulars respecting the War in Germany—also respecting the Ecclesiastical Commission.

August 12th, 1686.

SIR,

I CONFESS I have been remiss of late in writing to you, and therefore have justly deserved the reprimand you gave me in your last, if you had done it less gently than you did, but assure yourself it was not any wilful neglect, but occasioned through the frequent returns I have lately had of my usual distemper, for this vacation-time does not afford so much business as to hinder me from giving you an account of the occurrences here. I have here inclosed to you the two last Gazettes, which give you the full state of the siege of Buda, which I hope is by this time in the Christians' hands. I saw a letter the other day, which Mr. Harbord writ to Mr. Fisher, Mr. Cook's great crony, that has two particular passages in it that are not yet in print. He says that an Armenian in Buda, whose brother

dwells at Vienna, was dealt with to blow up the great magazine, which you have heard was done, but what's become of the two sparks since is not known. The Vice-Bassa too, that commanded next the Vizier in the town, had agreed for 10^{m}. ducats to cause a mutiny, and by that means to let the Christians into the town; but the plot being discovered, the Bassa was strangled, and some others of his accomplices impaled. On Monday last, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners sat the second time in the Robes-Chamber, where the Bishop of London, who had been summoned, appeared. The charge, or question asked him, was, why he did not suspend Dr. Sharp according to his Majesty's command to him? He begged time till next term to give in his answer; because he conceived it was a matter of consequence, and some persons, whose judgment and advice he would willingly make use of in order to give their Lordships satisfaction in that matter, were out of town this vacation-time. But

my Lord Chancellor told him it was his Majesty's business, and required dispatch; and besides it was but a very short question, and might be quickly resolved, and therefore he was ordered to give in his answer next Monday. Their Lordships have power to suspend and deprive any ecclesiastical person, of what degree or quality soever; but I hope if his Lordship's defence should not prove so satisfactory to them, they will only admonish him for the future. My cousin writes me word that he had no such letter from you with the inclosed to Mr. Prideaux; which I much wonder at, for I do assure you, I sent them carefully to the post-house, as I used to do all the others I have had from you, to be sent into the country.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the
Commissioners of His Majesty's
Revenue in Ireland, at the Custom-
House in Dublin. Ireland.

LIX.

Murder of Captain Hamilton.—The King's intended Journey into the West.

14th Aug. 1686.

SIR,

I THANK you for your favour of the 6th, and am sorry, as many more are, for the barbarous end that befell the honest great Will. Hamilton.* I told you on Tuesday, the Bishop

* Captain William Hamilton, commonly called "Tory Hamilton." He had been very active, as Lord Clarendon informs us, "in suppressing and bringing in the rogues and robbers of the country," and appears to have been in much esteem with the Government. Lord Clarendon calls him "as honest a fellow as ever was born." He was killed at Down, and the following is the account of the transaction sent to the Lord Lieutenant, Lord Clarendon, by the Judges Nugent and Lyndon, who happened to be in that town at the time, going the circuit. "In the evening, upon the close of our commission, notice was brought us in court, that Mr. Murtagh M'Gennis had killed Captain Hamilton of the dragoons. When we came from court, we found a great concourse of people, and feared some disorders might happen; but we went in person, and dispersed them. The manner of this unfortunate gentleman's death was (as by the best information we could have) thus:—Captain Hamilton, upon his traverse for the words he was accused of, was acquitted in the morn-

of London had time given him till next Monday. We are here languishing under bad apprehensions for Buda. We want the accounts of twenty-three days. Had it been taken, we should have known it by expresses; but had it been relieved, bad news would have been much fleeter. The camp is quite broke up. The Queen and Princess* will be in town next week, and the King may then take a turn to Portsmouth and the West, to Lime, Exeter, Bridgewater, and Bristoll; and then we shall see how that corner which was so zealous to

ing; in the evening he, together with one Mr. George Maxwell, came to the house and lodging where Mr. M'Gennis was, with four more in his company, and taxing Mr. M'Gennis that he had reflected upon him and abused him to one Mr. Smith; when M'Gennis denying it, and Hamilton desiring to have it under his hand, which he refused, Hamilton struck him with his cane, on which M'Gennis drew his sword (those in the company held Hamilton), and so he received the wound, whereof he died in two or three hours; Hamilton's sword not drawn. Mr. Maxwell was slightly wounded, and an attorney, who was in company with M'Gennis, wounded in the belly (as said) by Murtagh M'Gennis."

* The Princess of Denmark, afterwards Queen Anne.

receive a mock-king,* will behave themselves when their true one appears.

Mr. Ellis.

LX.

Mr. Skelton expected from Holland.

18th Sept. 1686.

I AM very sure, dear Sir, you will be pleased to hear that my Lord Treasurer † is pretty well again, and hath had no return of his ague since Thursday last: I hope some time next week he will have strength enough to get to London: Windsor air begins now to be too sharp for every body. We say great alterations are contriving there at this time for your nation, but they are carried (whatever they are) with great secrecy. If we are to credit the reports of the gentlemen of that country, your commission is tottering: I am sure I will believe it, when I see it. I had a letter this evening from Mr. Skelton,‡ who I perceive is making haste hither

* The Duke of Monmouth.

† Lord Rochester.

‡ Skelton, who had been previously Envoy in Holland,

to get his old scores paid off, and to get equipage money; but he sends his baggage by sea immediately for France, and the gross of his servants through Flanders thither. Monsieur Petit hath made it his request to stay there with M. d'Albyville: I wonder a little at it, because Mr. Skelton and he have been so long together, and I should think him the easiest man to live with. Pray give my very humble service to Mr. Aubrey, and tell him I received last night his letter of the 10th, and sent the inclosed to my Lord. My wife and her son send you their services; as Robin Milburne used to say, I wish he had your head. I thank you now very heartily for your favour of the 5th, and am steadfastly, Yours, &c.

W. S.

Mr. J. Ellis.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenues of Ireland. Dublin.

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was now about to be employed in the same capacity at Paris. Burnet says of him, "that he was the haughtiest, but withal the weakest man." "He talked out all secrets, and made himself the scorn of all Holland."

LXI.

Domestic Occurrences.

Whitehall, Sept. 23d, 1686.

SIR,

I RECEIVED yours of the 8th instant, and with much ado kept my Lord Treasurer from naming any person for successor to Mr. Trumbull till I heard from you, though I did not give that as a reason, my Lord often calling upon me to provide him a fit man; and now I have left it fairly with him, whether Arthur Bush or Will Smith, and have recommended them two only to his consideration. I could not do otherwise, having mentioned something of Bush to my Lord while I was expecting to hear from you; and which soever of them have it, I think, with your assistance, I should have the gratuity, though I fear you will censure me for playing double, as you apprehended yourself might be in the case of Sam. Bridges, which I could not avoid under the circumstances, as I have acquainted you. My Lord Treasurer told me he would mention them both to my Lord Lieutenant in his letter

to-night; and I doubt his will be the casting vote to which of the two it will fall, as the matter goes; but had I recommended any one to my Lord Treasurer from hence, I believe his name had never gone for approbation into Ireland. I confess I have in my recommendation inclined to Smith, upon the character you gave me of him, but could not avoid naming the other. You see I have been very free with you in this matter, and much more than ever I am with any body upon these occasions. *If* you can order it so that Will Smith may, without owning any notice of it from me, gain my Lord Lieutenant's good testimonial, the matter is done. My Lord Treasurer is, God be thanked, quite recovered again of his ague; but returns to Windsor to-morrow, to take his leave of that place for this summer. The Court removing thence this day sennight, to the no small joy of them all.

I am, with great truth and sincerity,

Dear Sir,

Your most affectionate friend to serve you,

FRANCIS GWYN.

LXII.

Proceedings of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.—News from Flanders.

1st Oct. 1686.

On Tuesday last, the Lords Commissioners for Ecclesiastical Causes met, and there appeared before them the three London Ministers (who had been cited) for marrying without licences, and who pretend to an exemption from all episcopal jurisdiction. They were in the first place severally lessoned, and told of the heinousness of their offences, in spiriting away people's children, and marrying of them in uncanonical hours to their own ruin, and contrary to the consent of their parents, &c.

These Ministers excuse themselves, saying they had had their respective cures under the Great Seal; that it was an ancient custom; and that, though the Lord Chancellors and Bishops of London for the time being have had frequent conferences about the means and methods of reducing those exempt places under episcopal

jurisdiction, yet that the Lord Chancellors had been still of opinion, that the King's rights and privileges in those places were to be maintained, &c. In fine, they were ordered to produce their grants before the King's Council learned, together with the registries of all that they have married, and were inhibited from practising or marrying any more, (at least, *pendente lite.*)

There were also read before the Lords several petitions: one against Sir Richard Newdigate, for oppression of his clerk, substraction of his salary, and detention of tithes, &c.; another against Sir John Borlace, for simoniacal contracts; a third by way of information against a poor Levite for incontinency, &c.: all which are cited to appear before the Lords; as are also the Dean and Chapter of Windsor.

What exercises people's discourse at present here, and is matter of surprise elsewhere, is, the news that comes from Flanders of the marches and movements of the French troops in great bodies, and their having set up *pôteaux* with

the Most Christian King's arms upon them within musket-shot of the gates of Namur and Mons, which the Spaniards say is a peaceable way of blocking up those towns.

Yesterday returned hither the Prince and Princess* from Windsor; and this evening their Majesties, all in good health: the Queen Dowager continues still at the Bath.

Yesterday morning died Sir Philip Lloyd: it is not yet well known whether Mr. Bridgman or Mr. Blathwayt (both having a grant) will succeed him as Clerk of the Council, nor who in his other employments.

There passed by here two days ago an express, which was sent by the Governor of Flanders into Spain, to give an account of the French motions, and to crave aid of men or money, or both, for the preservation of those provinces which seem now to be threatened.

2d October, 1686. I hope you will pardon my using another hand, being in some more

* Of Denmark.

than ordinary hurry upon the Court's first coming, though I am always and every where,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

O. W.

Mr. Ellis.

LXIII.

Foreign news.—Diplomatic changes.—Disturbance at Rotterdam, &c.

Whitehall, 22d Oct. 1686.

We have very little worth the troubling you with, though it be post day. We please ourselves here with reasoning about the successes of the Duke of Lorraine in Hungary, and of the King of Poland towards the Black Sea, without any certainty of the one or the other. Some will have it that we are to expect little farther actions, and that this winter may go near to settle a peace; upon what grounds I cannot guess.

We have had a flying report these two days, as if some thousands of French troops were in march towards the Rhine, to damp all the little designs that may be formed in virtue of the league of Ausbourg; and that the Imperial Minister in the French Court, and the Spanish one, had but sour answers, the one about the Fort at Huningen, the other about the *pôteaux*.

Sir William Trumbull being arrived, we have no minister in France; but Mr. Skelton is a preparing to go and fill up the post, and so is Sir William Trumbull that of Constantinople, and Marquis d'Albyville to the Hague.

A scuffle that happened at Rotterdam in seizing Sir Robert Peyton,* who braved the loyal English there, as Mr. Skelton embarked for England, maketh much noise; the rabble

* Sir Robert Peyton, Bart., had been attainted by Act of Parliament, and was therefore in banishment in Holland. He joined the Prince of Orange shortly before the Revolution, and was restored to his honours by the first Parliament that sat after that event. He enjoyed at several periods of his life different military commands.

stirred in favour of him, when seized (though he was not in the King's Proclamation) he was forthwith released, and the Amsterdammers appear more fierce than any in his vindication, as being, they say, their burgher; and so it is thought Ferguson and his fellows are, which is the reason they escaped thus long.

Several that were cited, appeared the 19th, before the Lords Commissioners of Ecclesiastical affairs. Their Lordships came to no sentence against any, but all have had copies of the petitions and accusations against them, in order to their fair trial.

Some busy people give out that we may suddenly have a change of several great men at Court; and that my Lord Lieutenant is to be recalled; but all this I take to be only surmises.

The counterfeit Duke of Monmouth was yesterday whipped from Newgate to Tyburn, and is to stand twice in the pillory.

An idle story is raised about the town concerning my Lord Mordant.* The story was

* This was the celebrated Lord Peterborough. He was at

invented by a rogue at Utrecht, and told Mr. Skelton, in hopes to get some little money by it; but my Lord Mordant going undisguised to the fellow, heard the same repeated to his face, the fellow averring that he knew the Lord very well; but my Lord, convincing him he was the person, put the rogue into such a confusion and shame, that none but a Dutchified-English villain could have undergone.

The Duchess of Portsmouth * arrived here last night, and it is supposed will winter here.

this time Viscount Mordaunt of Avalon; in 1689, he was created Earl of Monmouth, and in 1697, he succeeded his uncle, Henry second Earl, in the title of Peterborough. His bravery, his talents, his eccentricities, his friendship with Pope and Swift (who both celebrated him in verse), are all too well known to require to be here dwelt upon. He died at Lisbon, October 25th, 1735, aged seventy-seven.

* Louisa de Querouaille, the notorious mistress of Charles the Second, and mother by him of the first Duke of Richmond. The account given by Burnet of her being brought over from France, on her first visit to this country, by Villiers Duke of Buckingham, who wished to spite the Duchess of Cleveland, is curious and highly characteristic of the man. "The Duke of Buckingham assured the King of France, that he could never reckon himself sure of the

23d Oct.

Last night his Majesty conferred the honour of knighthood upon Mr. Baron Heath, and upon Mr. Allybone the lawyer.

The Queen Dowager is returned from the Bath.

Pray give my humble service to Mr. Feilding; I have the favour of his letter and sent his inclosed to Bruxelles. I return my thanks to him and you for your kind concern for the little mark I hereby obtained of the King's favour.

Mr. Ellis.

King (Charles), but by giving him a mistress that should be true to his interests. It was soon agreed to. So the Duke of Buckingham sent her with part of his equipage to Dieppe, and said, he would presently follow. But he, who was the most inconstant and forgetful of all men, never thought of her more; but went to England by the way of Calais. So Montagu, then Ambassador at Paris, hearing of this, sent over a yacht for her, and sent some of his servants to wait upon her, and to defray her charge, till she was brought to Whitehall: and then Lord Arlington took care of her. So the Duke of Buckingham lost the merit he might have pretended to; and brought over a mistress, whom his own strange conduct threw into the hands of his enemies."

LXIV.

St. James's-square, Oct. 27th, 1686.

MR. JOHN ELLIS,

I DO earnestly recommend the bearer hereof, Mr. James Segrave, who is, as I am informed, a person of integrity and merit, and sufficiently qualified for an employ under the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue: so that, if by my request to the Commissioners, or by your favour, he may obtain any employ of this nature, it shall be kindly acknowledged by

Your faithful friend,

ORMONDE.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary, to the Commissioners of his Majesty's Revenue in Dublin.

LXV.

Lord Mayor, &c. reprimanded.—Committee of Council.

13th, November, 1686.

LAST night the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, and the Justices of Peace of Middlesex,

were severely reprimanded before the King in Council, for having not restrained the liberty of the *populace* upon the 5th instant, who, contrary to several proclamations, as well as the Lord Mayor's own precepts, made bonfires, or something worse, to expose the Roman Catholic religion. Strict inquiry is to be made into the promoters of these insolencies in contempt of the Government.

Our merchants trading into Spain have made complaints to the King in Council of the great prejudice they are like to suffer by the King of Spain's raising the price of the pieces of $\frac{8}{8}$, whereby our people and others must be content to take one-fifth part less than their dues of all their debts and credits.

The Committee of Council to inspect the Justices of Peace throughout England are, Lord Chancellor, Lord Treasurer, Lord President,* Lord Chamberlain,† Earls of Huntingdon,‡

* Lord Sunderland. † Lord Mulgrave.

‡ Theophilus (Hastings) seventh Earl of Huntingdon. He was a great favourite with James, who appointed him Lord-

Peterborough,* Powys, &c. Middleton, Lords Arundell, Dartmouth, Godolphin,† Bishop of

Lieutenant of the Counties of Leicester, Huntingdon, and Derby; Chief Justice in Eyre, Captain of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, Colonel of the 13th Regiment of Foot, and a Privy Counsellor. These places and honours he lost at the Revolution. He died in 1701.

* Henry (Mordaunt) Earl of Peterborough distinguished himself for his attachment to the Royal cause during the civil wars. He was wounded at the battle of Newbury. In 1648, being engaged in the rising with the Earl of Holland to rescue the King, and being defeated, he was obliged to fly the country, and was voted a traitor to the Commonwealth. In 1673, he was sent Ambassador to Modena, to negotiate the marriage of James Duke of York with the Princess Mary of that house. In the reign of James the Second, he embraced the Catholic religion, and was made Groom of the Stole, and a Knight of the Garter. At the Revolution, the House of Commons resolved to impeach him of high treason, together with the Earl of Salisbury, bnt they afterwards abandoned this design.

† Sydney Lord Godolphin, afterwards created, by Queen Anne, Earl of Godolphin. A statesman of talent and integrity. He died in 1712, having filled various high offices, and especially that of Lord High Treasurer. His great fault was, the being a gambler. Burnet says he loved gaming the most of any man he ever knew; and Pope confirms the testimony in the lines in the Moral Essays, which he has devoted to his character:—

Durham, and Chancellor of the Exchequer.* I had almost forgot the Earl of Craven.† They met twice, and have not yet finished. The Sheriffs are not yet pricked.

We hear there is one frigate with about 120m. of Spanish money, and bars, arrived in the Channel.

Mr. Ellis.

"Who would not praise Patricio's high desert,
His hand unstain'd, his uncorrupted heart,
His comprehensive head! All interests weigh'd,
All Europe sav'd, yet Britain not betray'd.
He thanks you not; his pride is in piquette,
Newmarket fame, and judgment at a bett."

* Sir John Earnley, Knight.

† William Earl Craven, a man of the most chivalrous gallantry and bravery, and well known as the devoted admirer of the unfortunate Elizabeth Queen of Bohemia, whose cause and that of her husband he fought for in Germany, and whom he is supposed subsequently to have been privately married to. He served during the thirty years war under the great Gustavus of Sweden, and also in the Netherlands under Henry Prince of Orange. At the Revolution he lost his employments. He died April 9th, 1697, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years and ten months.

LXVI.

Details of the private affairs of the writer.—Change in the Ecclesiastical Commission.—Dutch news.

23rd Nov. 1686.

SIR,

I AM much ashamed, and beg your pardon, that I have not writ to you of so long time, that if you did not know me very well, it might call in question my respects to you; but indeed, besides an indisposition of health, which I have been very subject to of late, as I hear, and am sorry for it, that you have been too, I cannot deny but I might have taken other opportunities to have showed you what in my heart I never wanted, a true and sincere affection and concern for you, especially when I heard, which was but lately, that you were not well; but however my sloth, for that indeed has been the real cause, has been to blame: I desire your excuse of me for this time, and I will try to be more punctual with you hereafter. I can yet do no good with White: he has set the 15th of February next for payment, but I

look upon it like his other shams, for the Parliament is to sit then, and the privilege before that, and after the last prorogation yesterday, will take up all the mean time. I went a while since, and acquainted Sir James Butler at his chamber with the whole matter, who seemed a little concerned then at it, and told me he had been disingenuous with him in concealing it from him, who had always sent him what he wanted; that he would speak to him, and I should hear his answer at the Signet-office. Yesterday, meeting Sir James in the Hall, I told him Mr. White had not sent to me. He told me he could say nothing to the matter; White had played the fool with himself, in parting for nothing with a good place he had got him under you, and he might, if he had been wise, have disposed of, and have got 100*l.* by it, tacitly intimating as if you then were the gainer by him in that case. In short, he bid me take the best course I could with him; and when I told him I must do it, if he would not protect him, he told me, but somewhat faintly,

he would not: so that I think to venture a writ upon him, and if he shows a protection, it is but discharging him at present, and staying a better opportunity, for I find by Sir James that he does not want money to pay that debt, if he were but willing, which we must make him when we can. Sam and I too hitherto have made little or no progress in the disposing of those old houses Will has allotted him towards his debt. The truth of it is, they are so very old and ruinous, that nobody will meddle with them but they that can build them, and in that case they will have them at their own rate, or there they may stand or rather fall. There are only two persons that we can presume it is their interest to buy them, and they are, Willis that has the mortgage, and Sir John Cutler,* to whose garden they adjoin; but they are both such wary blades, that all I can yet bring them up to is but 150*l*. So that, after the mortgage

* Sir John Cutler was the most notorious miser of his time; and has been "damned to everlasting fame" in that capacity, by the well-known lines of Pope.

discharged, Sam, if we take that, will not have above 80*l*. towards his debt. If we can bring it up to 100*l*. to him besides the mortgage, is what we now labour, but I am afraid shall not attain. You may communicate as much of this as you please to Will, and let me hear how it relishes with him. The news I have to add to that in the Gazette is, that, notwithstanding what you find there of the French King, he is very ill and cannot recover, and that he has so far owned himself a mortal man, as to submit to be prayed for in all the churches of Paris. The Ecclesiastical Commission is renewed, with no other alteration then the leaving out my Lord of Canterbury, and putting in the Earl of Mulgrave, Lord Chamberlain, in his room. As to Dr. Oldish's debt, I must beg your favour to let me remain your debtor for the money I was to have applied to it till our meeting, having had some particular occasions of my own to use it in; it is the first lack that ever I made in any thing you have commanded me, and I hope it will be no great prejudice

to you to let it sleep a little while longer; but if you are not satisfied to let it be so, I will try to raise the money, and discharge the debt as soon as possibly I can. I am told (which I should have joined to my other news) that the Dutch have assigned the Princess of Orange, as eldest daughter and heiress of the King, 25,000*l.* per annum, and a guard; and that the Prince has offered them 3 or 400,000*l.* (if they have occasion for it) without interest, for three or four years, and afterwards for 4*l.* per cent. for what time they keep it.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland, at the Custom-House in Dublin.

Ireland.

LXVII.

Foreign news.—Sentences for sedition in the Gazette.—Skelton going to Paris, &c.

23d Nov. 1686.

There are not many posts come in since this day sevennight. The Dutch letters

are still wanting: the French ones came last night, and give us account that the Most Christian King was relapsed, or rather that his indisposition had broke out afresh; a new incision having been made, upon which public prayers (even those of *Quarante heures*) had been made, though there was no apprehension of great danger.

The same letters add, that the Governor of Milan (who has disarmed himself of all his troops to serve the Venetians) was much alarmed at the motion and approach of 1500 French horse, that appeared near the confines of his government. And that some alterations are projected to be made (such as the creating and selling of new Presidentships, &c.) in the tribunals and chambers of justice in Lorraine and Alsatia. We, as well as others, long to know what resolution the Emperor and Diet will come to about the new fort that is sprung up at Huningen, and what effect the league of Augsbourg, so much talked of, is like to have.

The Gazette gives an account of our little

occurrences here at home. That Samuel Johnson,* mentioned in it, was Chaplain to the Lady Russell,† and was more than presumed

* Samuel Johnson was born in 1649, and early distinguished himself in the cause of Protestantism and liberty, for which he wrote and preached with boldness and ability. Having been active in advocating the exclusion of James from the throne on account of his religion, he was marked out for persecution as soon as that Prince came into power. The pretext taken for the punishment alluded to in this letter, was his publication of an address to all Protestants in the army; for this he was sentenced to be degraded from the priesthood, to stand twice in the pillory, to pay a fine of five hundred marks to the King, and to be whipped from Newgate to Tyburn. Great intercession was made with the King for the remission of the whipping, but the cruel James only replied in derision, that "since Mr. Johnson had the spirit of martyrdom, it was fit he should suffer." He continued to publish various political pamphlets, by one of which his life was endangered, in the year 1692. He had just given to the world his famous tract upon "the abrogation of King James," which so incensed those it was written against, that they hired assassins to murder him. Seven assassins broke into his house in Bond street, and finding him in bed with his wife, began attacking him with swords and clubs, telling him at the same time it was for the book he had written. They wounded him in several places, but without completing their work, since he lived till 1703.

† Rachel Wriothesley, the celebrated Lady Russell.

to have a hand in the Lord Russell's speech. Being a minister, he is in the first place to be formally degraded according to the ecclesiastical laws, before he runs through the other exercise prescribed him by his sentence.

Whitaker, the other in the Gazette, was a factious attorney, and a confident of the late Earl of Shaftesbury,* and the late factious London Mayors and Sheriffs (that is, Clayton, Ward, Bethel, &c.†), and one that was employed in the West, to strew roses and to prepare the way for the late Duke of Monmouth, where he broached, among others the like doctrines, that for which he is sentenced. He had also the impudence to prefer two indictments

* Anthony Ashley Cooper, first Earl of Shaftesbury, whose character and adventures are too notorious to require to be here dwelt upon.

† By "factious" is here to be understood, that they opposed the arbitrary proceedings of the Court, and were friends to the Protestant religion. At least this appears to have been the sole ground for applying this epithet to Sir Robert Clayton and Sir Patience Ward. Bethel, according to Burnet, was a republican, but a man of ability and of a respectable character.

against Scroggs* and Jenkins† for issuing out his warrant against him.

The Committee of Council for the inspection

* Sir William Scroggs, the infamous Chief Justice of the King's Bench, whose corruption, whose base subserviency to the ruling powers, and whose cruelty and injustice to prisoners, fully entitle him to be called the *Laubardemont* of England. Roger North says of him, "He was of a mean extract, having been a butcher's son, but wrought himself into business in the law. His debaucheries were egregious, and his life loose. He had a true libertine principle. He was preferred for professing loyalty: but Oates coming forward with a swinging popularity, he (as Chief Justice) took in and ranted on that side most impetuously. After that time, he turned as fierce against Oates and his plot, as ever before he had ranted for it." Burnet remarks of him, "that in all the trials, he set himself, even with indecent earnestness, to get the prisoners to be always cast." And concludes his account of him by observing, "that it was a melancholy thing to see so bad, so ignorant, and so poor a man raised up to so great a post."

† Sir Leoline Jenkins. "He was made Secretary of State in Sir William Coventry's place (1680), and was the chief manager for the Court. He was a man of an exemplary life, and considerably learned; but he was dull and slow. He was suspected of leaning to Popery, though very unjustly; but he was set on every punctilio of the Church of England to superstition, and was a great assertor of the divine right of monarchy, and was for carrying the prerogative high: he

of the Justices of the Peace throughout England, have met several times, but have not yet gone through all the counties of England. The Sheriffs were not pricked the last night. You will have them likely in the next Gazette, or, at least, after the next Council-day.

Mr. Skelton embarks for France next Monday, and the Marquis d'Albyville for the Hague in few days after. Mr. Paley hopes to be in Sweden before Christmas, though I can hardly think it, or that Sir William Trumball will set out for Constantinople before Spring.

I have the favour of your's of the 10th, and cannot tell you any certainty of an alteration either in the revenue or government there, though half the Court and country will not believe but that we shall hear of a Farmer, and a Lord Deputy, before New year's day.

he neither spoke nor writ well; but being so eminent for the most courtly qualifications, other matters were the more easily dispensed with."* Jenkins was dismissed from his office in 1684, and died September 1, 1685.

* Burnet.

I am still at Whitehall, and pray give me no new title. Be pleased to continue the old one, of your most humble servant,

O. W.

Pray return my most humble service to Mr. Commissioner Cullyford, &c.

LXVIII.

26th Nov. 1686.

THE Sheriffs were pricked but last night. I send you a list of them, and have nothing to add by way of news. French letters of Saturday left the King growing better and better, though the wild surmisers of our town will have it otherwise. Old Speake, that favoured the escape of Trenchard,* is fined 2000 marks.

* Mr. Thomas Trenchard was the man who proposed the exclusion of the Duke of York from the succession to the throne, in the House of Commons. He was a friend of Lord Russell's, and was mentioned by the witnesses against him, as having intended to raise a body of men in the West. He was subsequently accused of favouring the Duke of Monmouth's rebellion.

Dr. Eeds, for seditious works and avowing of a factious book, a 100*l*. The Lords of the Council have not yet finished their inspection of all the Justices of Peace. I know no very infallible ground for the report we have, that Lord Tirconnell will be with you so soon, and with the character of Lord Deputy, yet the world will here have it so.

Mr. Ellis.

LXIX.

Increasing interest of Father Petre and Lord Tyrconnell.—Lord Powis intercedes for Johnson.

London, Nov. 30th, 1686.

SIR,

I FOUND yours of the 10th here when I came last Thursday; and had writ on Saturday, but that I knew little what to write, especially Lord Duke of Ormond being out of town in Hampshire to see a house which he has a mind to purchase, but I think will not, though he is very much bent upon having a decent country-

house in some sporting part of this kingdom. After a little discourse with his Grace, I brought you in, and how desirous you were to be beholden to him for a transplantation hither: he said he doubted the difficulty would be great, and stumbled at doing for me what he formerly promised, so that I left him but indifferently satisfied; I must work as well as I can. My Dartmouth interest, too, is at a very low ebb. The Jesuit Jack Peters is very great, and Tyrconnel works by him. This high-priest has the lodgings in Whitehall, which were the King's whilst Duke. Tyrconnel makes all the visible preparations for the chief government of your kingdom, as coaches, plate, beds, &c. and Tho. Sheridan, his Chief Secretary. This is the public vogue, but no other signs, no declaration in Council, nor any thing in the offices, and Will Shaw is confident he will not go this twelvemonth:* what reason he has for his confidence, I cannot see. The

* Lord Tyrconnell went to Ireland as Lord Lieutenant in the first days of 1687.

matter of Bantam is fully composed to the King's satisfaction, so that the war with the Dutch seems afar off; but in my judgment it is the desperate state of the French King that makes it so, for there is little probability of his recovering. For above a month or so, we want the Sundays' letters from thence, and so if they come not to-morrow, we shall conclude him dead; the operation has been a very desperate one. Skelton is gone thither. I supped with Thom. Chudleigh* last night, who remembered you with great friendliness; in ten days I shall see farther into the mill-stone. I have not had time to see Phil. yet, have had a miserable journey hither, find many vicious projects on foot: the naval preparations still go forward, seventy-five to be ready by the 1st of April, dry-fitted: a universal regulation of Justices of Peace, and R. C.† put in. Johnson should have been whipped, but it is believed

* Chudleigh had been Envoy in Holland, from whence he had been recalled the preceding year for insulting the Prince of Orange.

† Roman Catholics.

my Lord Powis has begged off the punishment. To-morrow we shall see, being the day appointed: he has stood three days in the pillory.

If Tyr—— comes, the Royal Chapel of Christ-church is in a fine way. Billingsley is Lieutenant-Colonel in Cotter's room, an exchange.

Direct to Mr. Wynn's in Germain-street.

J. Ellis.

LXX.

Secretary Coventry dying.—Ecclesiastical Commission opened.

December 2d, 1686.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

ONCE to-day I did not intend to write to any body, but I have since considered I have been some time a letter in your debt, and I desire to be often so, for I love to hear from you. Your old friend Mr. Secretary Coven-

try* lies at this time speechless, and his friends fear he will never speak more. We have reports too that the King of France is dead, but we have been long without those letters, and yet the wind hath blown fair here to bring them. Pray remember us all to my dear brother and sister Price, and tell them neither of them will have a letter to-night from St. James-street, but I am now three in his debt, with one Colonel Fairfax gave me to-night. At the same time he left with me a large packet for my Lord Treasurer, which I take to be your year's account of the revenue. I will deliver it to him to-morrow morning early. This evening at six of the clock, the new Commission for Ecclesiastical affairs was opened, and Lord

* Henry Coventry, a younger son of the Lord Keeper, and brother of Sir William Coventry. He was employed in embassies to the northern Courts of Europe during the early part of the reign of Charles the Second. In 1672 he was made Secretary of State, which post he resigned in 1679, on the score of bad health. He appears to have been a man of ability; and Lord Clarendon says "he was beloved by every one." He died at his house in the Haymarket, London, December 7th, 1686.

Mulgrave took his place at that board. Remember me to all friends with you, and believe me always with great affection,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithful, humble servant,

Wm. Shaw.

Mr. J. Ellis.

Johnson was yesterday whipped to Tyburn.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenues of Ireland.

Dublin.

Frank

Wm. Shaw.

LXXI.

Reports respecting illnesses of King of France, and Electoral Prince of Brandenburgh.—Quarrels at Court.

4th December, 1686.

MR. ELLIS,

I have your favour of the 19th. The French letters of the $\frac{26}{6}$ left the King much in the same condition; but private letters say he had lost another piece of flesh, and had had

several feverish touches. The Electoral Prince of Brandenburg* hath been taken with an apoplectic fit, which broke out into the small-pox. The grumblings between the Danes and the Hamburghers are not quite off. They publish manifestoes of each other, the one against doing homage, the other against quitting his claim to it, so that it is believed the flame may yet break out with the first opportunity.

I can tell you nothing certain of my Lord Tyrconnell's coming over. Some heart-burnings lately happened between Lord Chamberlain and Lord Peterborow, and also between Lord of Devonshire and Admiral Herbert, but it is hoped both will be reciprocally satisfied; and that care be taken with the aggressors.

Mr. Ellis.

* Afterwards Frederic William the First, King of Prussia, and father of Frederic the Great. He was at this time a boy of thirteen years old.

LXXII.

Irish appointments, &c.

Whitehall, 9th Dec. 1686.

DEAR SIR,

I RECEIVED yours by the last packet, the date I cannot tell you, being now in the Treasury Chamber, and your letter at my house; but not being able to answer it by the last post, I take this time to do it in, and to assure you that I will take all opportunities of doing you what service I can, and am glad you have communicated your thoughts to the Duke of Ormonde, for I can fix him better than I could my young Lord Ossory.

You will have very shortly an additional Accountant-general, in the room of Mr. Trumbull, come over to you; his warrant is passed; his name is Winteringham, and was chief clerk in the office of the Ordnance, to Sir Christopher Musgrave.* He is a very good accountant and

* Sir Christopher Musgrave, of Eden Hall, Cumberland, the fourth Baronet of that family. He distinguished himself during the civil wars on the royal side, for which, at the Re-

an ingenuous man; and since I could not make any of the other three do, who are new with you in Ireland, I took this gentleman, who I believe will do his business very well; my Lord Dartmouth, Sir Christopher Musgrave, and all the officers of the Ordnance, give him a very good character. I received two dozen pint bottles of usquebagh and some wine, both which are very good of their kind, from Mr. Will. Bridges, from one of his brothers: pray give him my thanks, though I do not know to which of them it is due.

I am,

Entirely your affectionate friend to serve you,

FRANCIS GWYN.

(No Address.)

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storation, he was made Captain of the Guards, Governor of Carlisle, and Lieutenant General of the Ordnance. During the early part of the reign of Queen Anne, he was one of the Tellers of the Exchequer. He died 1704.

LXXIII.

Mr. Culpeper s trial.--Duchess of Norfolk.—The Court in mourning.

11th Dec. 1686.

SIR,

WE have two posts due from France, and it is by common report that we know any thing of that King's health. At the Old Bailey, Lord Culpeper's* brother was brought in guilty of manslaughter, for killing one of the guards (and his horse to boot) with a blunderbuss, as he rid by in the morning upon the *patrouille*. Mr. Culpeper owned he might have done the act, but says he did it in his sleep, and produced half a hundred witnesses to prove how he often committed those extravagancies in his sleep, which he much abhorred when awake. Duchess of Norfolk† threatens to sue for alimony before

* Colonel John Colepeper, brother of Thomas second Lord Colepeper, and subsequently himself the bearer of that title.

† Lady Mary Mordaunt, daughter and sole heiress to Henry Earl of Peterborough. Married in 1677 to Henry (Howard) seventh Duke of Norfolk. The Duke had separated himself from her, on the ground of notorious adultery, in

the Lords for Ecclesiastical causes. I hear nothing of Lord Tirconnell. Secretary Coventry was buried last night. A poor woman that bought a pillow in Long Lane for a shilling, found in it a necklace of pearl worth 1500*l.* Another more unfortunate poor man, who stole a granadoe-shell yesterday from Blackheath, and this morning picking out the combustibles, it fired by some misluck, and flew about his ears, killed him and his wife, and blew up his cottage. Massey is certainly Dean of Christ-church. The Court will be next week in mourning for the Prince of Condé* and the Empress Dowager.†

1685. In 1699, the Duke obtained a divorce from her by Act of Parliament. She afterwards remarried with Sir John Germaine, to whom, on her death, she left her estate of Drayton, in Northamptonshire. He in his turn left it to his second wife, Lady Betty Germaine, who bequeathed it to Lord George Sackville, the father of the present Duke of Dorset.

* The great Prince of Condé was just dead, at the age of sixty-five.

† Eleanor Gonzaga, daughter of Charles Duke of Rhetelois, and wife of Ferdinand the Third, Emperor of Germany. She died Dec. 5th, 1686.

I hope Mr. Melvill hath the communication of the prints, to whom I am much obliged, and next yourself may pass for the best Dutchman there.

Mr. Ellis.

LXXIV.

Reports regarding Lord Tyrconnell.—Foreign news.

London, Dec. 14th, 1686.

DEAR SIR,

I WRIT to you the 30th of last month, in answer to one I found here from you at my arrival; possibly I am to blame cross winds, that I hear nothing from you. I am still to tell you my opinion holds that Lord Tyrconnel will be with you, though W. Shaw laughs and despiseth the rumour, and I saw that mighty man come out from the Cabinet on Sunday extremely disordered, and being last night with some of the royal intriguers, they disdainfully said it was now reported, Tyr—— was not to go according to general vogue. I am sure there is clashing

about it, and very open war amongst themselves. If he do come, I should advise you to take a month's trial how it will be with you after his investiture; it cannot be much worse than at present. Our good old Duke* seems to me visibly to fall away, but report it not as my judgment; he is very thoughtful, and melancholy. Will's† request to rout Sir John Topham,‡ is very ill taken by Phill., for by your desire he judged him dead: there is nothing done in it, nor ever will by Phill. so long as Sir John lives. Your brother Sam. came but little short of the Wardenship of the Mint. The King promiseth he shall not do so another time, so that he and you drivē at an equal level, and cannot be both served at once, except extraordinary luck and favour attend you. Our Carriers' affair is like to hang on the hedge, the terror of Parliament damping the spirits of

* Of Ormonde.

† Sir William Ellis.

‡ Serjeant at Arms, in which capacity he was so much employed in executing arrests by order of the House, that the phrase of "Take him, Topham,' became a proverb.

an Attorney. The old Empress Dowager is dead at Vienna; and Prince of Condé at Fountain-bleau in his way to see the languishing monarch of France: he finding an extraordinary indisposition upon him, sent for his physician, who, upon feeling his pulse, told him he must immediately prepare himself for another world, for he could not stay above three hours in this. Whereupon he said, he was content, called for pen, ink and paper, and wrote to the King, (the most curious moving letter that ever was read,) asking pardon for having ever bore arms against him, &c. The French Ambassador is very cheerful, and says his Master's danger is well nigh over, and the distemper is now searched to the bottom, and cut up by the roots. His condition is doubtless very dangerous, for the Dauphin says he knows not how it is with his father: and Lord Arran comes not away. Messrs. Fitz-James come next week, or possibly this: Du-puy and a yacht being gone to Oost-end for them, they being at St. Omer's, to gratify their Governor, Vaudery, who was of

that place. I bend that way, but misconstrue me not.*

Mr. J. Ellis.

LXXV.

Dec. 17th, 1686.

I KNOW no news. Mr. Fitz-James† is come back from Hungary, and so is his brother;‡ and Duke of St. Albans§ from France.

* The writer evidently alludes to his intention of attaching himself to the party of the Jesuits, as a means of rising.

† Afterwards the celebrated Duke of Berwick. He was now only fifteen years of age, and had already been serving with distinction in the Imperial armies against the Turks, and had been wounded at the siege of Buda.

‡ Henry Fitz-James, commonly called the Grand Prior. He was created Duke of Albemarle by his father after his abdication.

§ Charles (Beauclerk) Duke of St. Alban's, natural son of King Charles the Second by Nell Gwyn. The tradition of his first elevation to the peerage is as follows:—Charles one day going to see Nell Gwyn, and the little boy being in the room, the King wanted to speak to him. His mother called to him, "Come hither, you little bastard, and speak to your father." "Nay, Nelly," said the King, "do not give the

It is not yet told what new honours or preferments (excepting new wives) are designed either of them. Mr. Massey* is Dean of Christchurch; his patent, his pardon, and his dispensation, are now passing the seals. We are in the dark as to our great neighbour's health; and so it is said he is kept himself, for he speaks oracle-wise from an alcove, unseen; and the busy tattlers of our town say he can neither stand, sit, or lie down, but hangs in the air by

child such a name." "Your Majesty," replied Nelly, "has given me no other name by which I may call him!" Upon this the King conferred on him the name of Beauclerk, and created him Earl of Burford; and shortly before his death made him Duke of St. Alban's. He served for some years in the Imperial armies, and gained great honour by his gallantry at the assault of Belgrade in 1688. He afterwards served under King William, who made him Captain of the band of Gentlemen Pensioners, and a Lord of the Bed-chamber. Queen Anne continued him in these posts till the Tory ministry came in, when he resigned. He was however restored to them by George the First, who also gave him the Garter. He died at the age of fifty-five, May 11th, 1726; having married Diana, heiress of Aubrey De Vere, twentieth and last Earl of Oxford.

* Massey was a man of no merit, except that of being one of the latest converts to the Roman Catholic religion.

surcingles, and a sort of brancart. Earl of Tyrconnel will take a mince-pie with us, if not begin his new year. I wish you the one and the other, with mirth and health.

Mr. Ellis.

LXXVI.

Changes in the Government.—Statue of King James erected. —Private affairs of the writer.

January 1st, 1687.

SIR,

I HAVE been silent of late, but now have got some news for you of the first rate. It is certain my Lord Treasurer* resigns his staff, and the office will be in commission.†

* Lord Rochester. He was dismissed from his office partly through the intrigues of Lord Sunderland, and partly on account of his refusing to conform to the Roman Catholic religion, after having had several conferences with divines of that communion, and after listening to controversies between them and an equal number of Protestant clergymen. Upon these occasions, the Protestant champions were Doctors Jane and Patrick, and the Catholic ones Gifford and Godden.

† The Treasury was put in commission on the 4th of Janu-

Some name my Lord Powis for premier Commissioner, with the Lords Arundell of Wardour, Bellasis, Godolphin, and Sir John Ernley, for the rest; and others, my Lord Sunderland for the first, and some or all of the others with him. We expect the Commission will be signed to-morrow at Council; then by the next post you shall have them exactly. But although his Majesty thinks it necessary to put the Treasury in commission, yet he is very gracious to my Lord Treasurer, and in acknowledgment of his good management of the revenue, has given him 4000*l.* per annum out of the Post-office for ninety-nine years, if he and his son, the Viscount Hyde,* or either of them, live so long; and besides has granted and confirmed to his Lordship, and his heirs, several

ary 1687, and John Lord Bellasyse was made first commissioner. The rest of the Board were, Lord Godolphin, Lord Dover, Sir John Ernley, and Sir Stephen Fox.

* Henry second Earl of Rochester, and fourth Earl of Clarendon, to which latter title he succeeded upon the death of his cousin Edward, third Earl. Earl Henry died in 1753, and with him extinguished the honours of the family of Hyde.

manors and lands, which were late the Lord Grey's* in Northumberland and Durham, (and, as I am told, are about 2000*l.* a year) with a direction to the trustees that are at present seized of them for his Majesty, to convey them to his Lordship accordingly.† I hope his Majesty will be as kind to your Lord Lieutenant‡ at his return hither; for it is confidently said, (nay, somebody that is a man of sense and business, asked me to-day if his commission was come to us) that the Earl of Tirconnell comes over this spring, if not sooner, to relieve him. On Christmas-day, the new chapel in Whitehall, which was consecrated on Friday before, was publicly opened; and yesterday his

* Ford Lord Grey of Werk, whose unentailed estates had been forfeited, in consequence of the part he took in the Duke of Monmouth's rebellion.

† Burnet says, "Soon after that Lord Rochester lost his white staff, but had a pension of 4000*l.* a year for his own life and his son's, besides his grant upon the Lord Grey, and another valued at 20,000*l.* So here were great regards had to him; no place having ever been sold, even by a person in favour, to such advantage."

‡ Lord Clarendon.

Majesty's statue of brass,* in a Roman habit, was erected in the great court of Whitehall before the new building. It is done at the charge of Toby Rustat,† who set up that of

* This is the same statue which still remains in Privy Garden. It was executed by Grinling Gibbons, a sculptor and carver of eminence, who had been brought into notice by Evelyn, who found him executing carvings in wood in a cottage near Deptford. Gibbons cast the equestrian statue of Charles the Second at Windsor. He also executed the statue of the same monarch at Chelsea Hospital. The carved pedestal of the statue of Charles the First at Charing Cross is by Gibbons; and his exquisite carvings in wood of fruit, flowers, birds, &c. in various country houses are well known.

† Tobias Rustat, or Rustate, had been a Page of the back stairs, and subsequently was keeper of Hampton Court Palace, and Yeoman of the Robes to Charles the Second. His extraordinary loyalty led him to erect, at his own expense, the statues of Charles the Second at Windsor and Chelsea Hospital, as well as the one in question of James. Respecting the latter, "Vertue met with an agreement signed by Gibbons himself, for a statue of James the Second; the price 300*l.*, half to be paid down on signing the agreement, 50*l.* more at the end of three months, and the rest when the statue should be complete and erected. Annexed were receipts for the first 200*l.*, August 11, 1687. Paymaster, Tobias Rustat."—Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting. In Peck's Desiderata Curiosa, is a list of the charities and benefactions of

his late Majesty on horseback at Windsor; but this only stands on a pedestal of marble, as that does at the Royal Exchange, with rails of iron about it. It is supposed the removal of this great officer will be attended with some other changes; and some say the Lord Dartmouth is to quit his office of Master of the Horse to Mr. Fitz-James, the elder of the King's natural sons, who has been at the siege of Buda. Mr. Robert Brent is to be Secretary to the

Rustat (he was, among other things, a munificent benefactor to Jesus College, Cambridge, where he founded scholarships for orphan sons of clergymen), and the following is among the entries:—"A free gift to their Majesties King Charles the Second and King James the Second, of their statues in brass; the former placed upon a pedestal in the Royal Hospital at Chelsea, and the other in Whitehall—one thousand pounds." In Evelyn's Diary is the following article:—"1680, 24th July. Went with my wife and daughter to Windsor, to see that stately court, now neare finish'd. There was erected in the court the King on horseback, lately cast in copper, and set on a rich pedestal of white marble, the worke of Mr. Gibbons, at the expense of Toby Rustate, a page of the back staires; who, by his wonderful frugality, had arriv'd to a great estate in mony, and did many workes of charity, as well as this of gratitude to his master, which cost him 1000*l*. He is a very simple, ignorant, but honest and loyal creature."

new Lords of the Treasury; as we say here my cousin Will.* is to be to the new Lord-Lieutenant, which if so, will sure enable him to answer Sam's† demands without any difficulty. For after all my pains and hopes that I had to have struck up a bargain with Sir John Cutler for them at some reasonable price, the old curmudgeon starts new difficulties to go from his bidding, and so I am off with him; and another since, who was the only likely person to deal for them, has served me in the same kind: so that, except I would part with them for a song, there is no chapman at present to be found for them, for proffered wares stink, and it is naught, says the buyer, till he can boast of a rich pennyworth. For my part, as I understand your's and Sam's condition, I would have you use some way or other to let Sam have this money, and take these houses as part of your security, and let Will dip some of his new ones there a little

* Sir William Ellis. He did accompany Lord Tyrconnell to Ireland as his Secretary.

† Samuel Ellis.

deeper for the rest; for the money Sam must have, either from you or him, or he must never expect, notwithstanding all the letters he sends every post to the priest, that he will move one inch for him in any thing he pretends to be done for him here. I give you many thanks for your great and kind present of usquebagh, which every body commends that tastes; but notwithstanding its heat and goodness, I have got such a desperate cold, attended with such a violent coughing and stitch in my left side, that I am afraid will kill me; for neither that, nor bleeding, nor any other remedy that I have yet used, has any power to relieve or ease me; and then, if you be a good Catholic, you must do for me, as a song we have about this town says,

> "Then pray for the soul of Gabriel John,
> Or if you please you may let it alone,
> 'Tis all one."

I hope you have had a merry Christmas, and I wish you a happy new year, and many of them. Mr. Massey, of Merton College, is in-

stalled Dean of Christ-church; and Phil having been his friend, as I hear, to the King for that dignity, I believe he may be kind to Welbore.* I can hear nothing of Dr. Prideaux, nor do any thing yet with David White. Pray tell Cousin William, that the subpœna he directed me to get served and returned thither, came so late, that I could find nobody that would bring it within the day of its return. But the truth of it is, the thing is both troublesome and ungrateful; and the gentleman he directed me to, one Captain Sanky, if he had come over in time, as he does not, would scarcely have served it. For my part, it is quite out of my way; and pray him to let his friend find some other means in it. I had it not till about twenty days of the return of it, which is the 10th instant.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland, at the Custom-house in Dublin. Ireland.

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* Welbore Ellis, a younger brother of John Ellis, subsequently Bishop of Kildare and Meath. He was at this time a student of Christ-church, Oxford.

LXXVII.

New Year's Day, 1686-7.

SIR,

Now that we are entered into the new year, give me leave to wish it you again very happy, with many more such to follow. Our good Lord Treasurer is not yet displaced, but is winding up his great affairs in order to it: he goeth off with honour and applause, and which is more, with the King's good grace, and favour of the King, and a very considerable pension, besides other marks of his Majesty's acceptance of his long and painful services. It is not certain who the Commissioners are; Lords Godolphin, Bellasis, Dover, Sir John Earnley, and Sir Stephen Fox,* are most commonly men-

* Sir Stephen Fox is one of the most remarkable instances, in our history, of the rise of merit to eminence and wealth from low beginnings. He was originally, says Evelyn, "a poor boy in the quire at Salisbury, then taken notice of by Bp. Duppa, and afterwards waited on the Lord Percy, brother to Algernon Earl of Northumberland, who procured for him an inferior place amongst the Clerks of the kitchen and Green clothe side." He followed the fortunes of Charles II. during his exile, and managed all his money affairs with great pru-

tioned. Whether Mr. Guy and Mr. Brent Secretaries, is also dubious.

Mr. Ellis.

LXXVIII.

4th Jan. 1687.

The last night I had your favour of the 21st. The new Lords Commissioners I mentioned on Saturday, take possession of my Lord Treasurer's chair on Thursday next. Mr. Guy continues Secretary. Mr. Brent will find his account very fully by collecting, at the Court, and at the Treasury. It is said this day, that Lord Tirconnell goeth hence about Monday sevennight: what powers he carries we know not. Some *clairvoyants* seem to think your Lord

dence and honesty. At the Restoration he filled successively various offices, and acquired a vast fortune, "honestly gotten and unenvied," as Evelyn observes, "which is next to a miracle." He died full of years and honours, leaving behind him two sons, who were both ennobled. The younger branch (that of the Lords Holland) has been one of the most illustrious lines in point of talent, of which the aristocracy of this country can boast.

Chancellor there will be ere long changed: Mr. Fitton* (among others) is named his successor. But this to yourself, &c.

(No address.)

LXXIX.

Irish appointments.—English news.—Duke of Ormonde breaking.

London, Jan. 4th, 1687.

Yours of the 22d of last month came to hand yesterday, with those of the 24th from

* Sir Alexander Fitton succeeded Sir Charles Porter as Lord Chancellor of Ireland. In speaking of his appointment Burnet observes, "Fitton knew no other law but the King's pleasure." And Archbishop King, in his State of the Protestants in Ireland, gives the following account of him. "Sir Alexander Fitton, a person detected of forgery, not only at Westminster and Chester, but likewise fined by the House of Lords in Parliament, was brought out of gaol, and set on the highest court of the kingdom, to keep the King's conscience, though he wanted law and natural capacity, as well as honesty and courage, to discharge such a trust; and had no other quality to recommend him, besides his being a converted Papist." James created him Baron Fitton of the county of Limerick, in 1689.

your side; that of the 7th came safe also with one I found here: these are all I have had since my leaving you. But my own behaviour has not been extraordinary towards you as to the matter of writing. I have only writ the 30th of November and 14th of December; but assure yourself I will not be slack where I can truly serve. Your high folks are unbelieving politicians, for Tyrconnel's goods are in part gone to-day, and he himself undoubtedly follows some day next week: he is Lord Deputy, and not to be sworn in seven days after he lands. He complains he has not formed his family to his content. Rumour goes that your Charles Porter goes out, and my Lord Gerrard's* enemy, Fitton, succeeds. This, upon very good grounds I assure myself, is very lately brought about; and our Jeffreys is moving after the

* This probably alludes to some family quarrel between the Fittons and the Gerards, as Charles Lord Gerard of Brandon, and first Earl of Macclesfield, who was living at the time this letter was written, was the son of the sister and coheiress of Sir Edward Fitton, of Gosworth, in Cheshire.

same manner, but who will supply his, I cannot divine; and Allibone stands fair for Attorney General, but Sawyer was in long enough to break our Carriers' affair, which yet in time may do. To my great amazement, after all, they assure me the Parliament will sit. My old friend Dartmouth's interest is dwindled to nothing, and Feversham grows very contemptible, and will down, or I am mistaken, very low. Now the two brothers* are routed, many more depending interests will sink. Lord Rochester has made no ill bargain in my mind: 2000*l.* land per annum given him out of Lord Grey's estate in Northumberland, which, according to the vulgar envy, was not restored, nor any thing but what he proved entailed: and a pension of 4000*l.* per annum for his and his son's life, and to continue his Whitehall lodgings till 4000*l.* be paid him for them. Lords Bellasis, Godolphin, Dover, Sir John Earnley, Sir Step. Fox, are Commissioners: it is some wonder Powis is out, but possibly he will, after

* Clarendon and Rochester.

all, outwit them. Old Ormonde gone to Hampton Court, breaks apace, and is much out of humour. I am yet here, and question whether I shall go, though daily told of it. I like my work very well, but will open no farther to you. Marquis d'Albyville is gone at last to Holland. Barrillion* will be supplanted here by Bon-ripeaux:† your friend *Pepys*, I think, Phil, &c. are out-shot by many bar-lengths by the High Priest.‡ I doubt you will not be more easily catechized on Mondays than before; but the interrogatories will be much to the same purpose. I am afraid all the professions of kindness to Wm. will not amount to much.

* Barillon was long Ambassador to England from France, and continued so till the Revolution. Voltaire calls him "a man of pleasure, better instructed about the intrigues of James's mistresses than respecting those of Europe;" and asserts that he was completely deceived as to the intentions of the Prince of Orange.

† This means M. de Bonrepos, who, however, did not succeed Barillon, though he was sent over to negotiate upon particular points with James, and to give him advice with regard to the designs of the Prince of Orange.

‡ Father Petre.

Here are many matters. I wish to be with you, *encore adieu.* Jon. Price and Will. Robinson is picked at.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

LXXX.

Lord Tyrconnell sets out for Ireland.—Intended appointments there.—Changes in England.—Parliament prorogued.

January 11th, 1687.

SIR,

I WRIT you lately some news of account, but not with that certainty that I now do. This day the Earl of Tyrconnell set forwards for Ireland with his Majesty's commission, as Deputy of that kingdom; but that commission is not to begin to be in force till after fourteen days of his arrival there, and therefore he brings his Majesty's letters to the Lord Lieutenant to constitute him his Deputy for that time, and to resign the sword of estate to him

in a week after his coming there, and then that the Lord Lieutenant repair into England: which is a pretty salvo for my Lord Lieutenant to come away in that quality, and have no greater person there than himself whilst he stays. These following persons are now made Privy Councillors there, viz. the Lord Viscount Nettervile,* Lord Louth,† Lord Bellew,‡ Sir William Talbott,§ Col. Richard Butler, Mr. Anthony Hamilton,|| Mr. Thomas Sheridan,¶

* Nicholas third Viscount Netterville in Ireland. He served in the army of King James before Derry, where he was taken prisoner, May 6th, 1689, and outlawed. He died shortly afterwards, and his children obtained the reversal of their father's outlawry.

† Matthew (Plunket) seventh Lord Louth. He was also outlawed at the Revolution.

‡ Sir John Bellew, Bart. Baron Bellew of Duleek, 1686.

§ Sir William Talbot was the person who had the management of King James's private estate in Ireland.

|| Colonel Anthony Hamilton. Lord Clarendon, in his correspondence with his brother Lord Rochester, calls him "a very worthy man, and of great honour, and who has been in very good employments and esteem when he served abroad."

¶ Respecting this Thomas Sheridan, when he is reported

(who by the by comes his Lordship's secretary, which I doubt will spoil the pretensions of your brother Will for that place, and along of his own ill management for aught I know, in not gratifying the Priest in Sam's satisfaction), and Mr. Simon Lutterell;* and Mr. Nagle† is made his Majesty's Attorney in room of Sir Wm. Domvile. Sir Alexander Fitton, we say here, is coming over Lord Chancellor there, in the place of Sir Charles Porter. Mr. Culliford (which you may make what use of you please) will certainly be removed; alas! he must, like the cock-boat, follow the great ship, his cousin. The names of the Commissioners of

to be coming to Ireland as one of the Commissioners of the Revenue, Lord Clarendon writes, "Sure it is not known what a wicked cheating man he is."

* Simon Luttrell was, during the reign of James, Knight of the Shire for the County of Dublin, Lord Lieutenant of that county, Governor of the town and garrison of Dublin, a Privy Councillor, and Colonel of a regiment of dragoons. He followed King James to the Continent, commanded an Irish regiment in the foreign service, and was killed at the battle of Landen, in 1693.

† Sir Richard Nagle, an eminent Irish Catholic lawyer.

the Treasury here are these: Lord Belasyse, Lord Godolphin, Lord Dover, Sir John Earnley, and Sir Stephen Fox; and we talk hard of the Lord Arundell of Wardour being Lord Privy Seal, Lord Powis Paymaster of the Army, and Sir Thomas Haggerston* Lieutenant of the Tower. The Parliament is prorogued to the 28th of April. Last Friday his Majesty declared in Council, that the alteration he has lately made in the Treasury is not for any fault that he finds in my Lord Rochester's management there, in whose faithful service to him, both before and since his access to the crown, he is well satisfied; but the office of Treasurer had so great influence and dependence, that he had resolved it should not be held by any single person during his reign: that he had likewise by long experience found the places of Lord High Admiral and Lord General to be of so great trust and importance,

* Sir Thomas Haggerstone, the second Baronet of that family. It does not appear that the appointment mentioned in the text took place, but he was Governor of Berwick for King James.

as not to be lodged anywhere else but in the Sovereign; and therefore he would, in convenient time, consider of such rules and regulations for the executing of those offices, that his opinion in these cases might appear to posterity, and what care he had for the monarchy; or much to this effect. I beg your pardon for omitting the sending you the three last Gazettes: you shall have them all together by Thursday's post; but those changes have put us in a little hurry. The last thing that I have to recommend to you is, that if you or Will ever hope to make use of the Priest's interest here, which is very great, you must forthwith take some care to let Sam have all the money that is behindhand from Will.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland at the Custom-House in Dublin. Ireland.

LXXXI.

15th Jan. 1687.

The last from you is of the 2d instant. We hear Lord Tirc. or his servants have

been robbed. He went *privately* hence, to avoid the winged crowd of his countrymen, that usually follow their friends (like that other *cohors, some a foot, some a horse*) as far as St. Alban's for a good dinner. We in the city know not what to write; they at court talk variously, and of many changes and turnings we have not yet suspected. Lord Chief Justice* is more than guessed to have absolutely declared. We are, in fine, so puzzled with new and daily surmises, that we speak but little, and cannot tell what to think.

(No address.)

LXXXII.

Fire at Gray's Inn.

22d Jan. 1687.

I HAVE your favour of the 13th to thank for. We are here at a gaze, expecting where those rumours and surmises that fly about may light. They all portend some far-

* Sir Edward Herbert. He had declared in favour of the Court, and of the King's dispensing power.

ther changes, though I know not grounds for any as yet. The Princess of Denmark hath been indisposed these two days; and we are not without some apprehensions of her being miscarried. On Thursday night, as they were in the midst of their revels and masquerades at Gray's Inn, a violent fire broke out, which destroyed most of the paper buildings that remained; several records are also lost and burnt, and blown up, particularly those of the Fyne-office, or a great part of them.

Mr. Ellis.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Right Hon. the Lords Commissioners of the Revenue.

At Dublin.

LXXXIII.

Domestic news, &c.

Jan. 22d, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I INTENDED, I assure you, to write to at least a dozen people besides yourself, but company have come in so thick upon us this

evening (which is the night we usually remember our friends in Ireland) that I could scarce get home to write this, and to my brother Price; and I think I should have made bold with you till another night, but that I thought you would be willing to know my Lord had yours, and my Lord Longford's letters. His good Lordship, I thank God, is very well, and took your compliment very kindly. I am by his advice (over and over) where you left me, but desire you will believe, if it were of ten times the value it ever was, I would not do an ill thing to preserve it. As yet I am as likely as any body to know when any change is like to be in your Commission, and you may be sure to know it as soon as may be after, but I do not think that will yet happen. Last night about seven of the clock, the Princess miscarried, and is very well after it. Old Sir Bernard Gascoigne is newly dead, and your friend Colonel Vernon is just following. We are told an alteration is likely to be in the Commission of the Customs. I wish your bro-

ther Dominick* could place you there: your brother Sam. makes great court there, I mean at St. James's. We are told that part of the wall of purgatory is fallen down, and that hell fire breaks in upon it, which makes it somewhat more chargeable than it was to dying people, to contribute to the reparation of this breach. My service to your Master Aubrey; he will, I hope, excuse me till I can write to him more at ease, for on every hand I have now at least two or three. I am all your's, and adieu.

Mr. J. Ellis.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue of Ireland. Dublin.

LXXXIV.

Jan. 23rd, 1687.

DEAR JACK,

HAVING the opportunity of a sure hand, I could not pass it by, though I had no other

* Philip Ellis.

business than to tell you I have often wished and enquired of your health, though not of late by letter, by reason of the many miscarriages I have been sensible of, from the posts between the two kingdoms. Was the conveyance more certain or speedy, you should not fail of those addresses I should gladly make, to give myself the pleasure and advantage of your correspondence: but this has another import also, and that is, to desire the trouble from you of enquiring whether John Cole, of Baltimore, be living by his profession. He is an *huer*, the name we give to such as stand on the shore and give directions to the boatmen for the encompassing of the pilchards, that season of the year when they frequent it in large shoals; and the reason of this enquiry is, that I may govern myself the better in the let of a tenement held by his life, if living. Your answer will be obliging and of advantage to me, what condition soever he is in; the certainty one way or other is my only aim; and I presume the satisfaction will not be very uneasy to you, by reason your con-

cern in the Treasury gives you influence over all the officers belonging to the Customs.

I am,

Your affectionate friend and servant,

J. BRISTOL.*

I am going to reside at Bristol.

These to John Ellis, Esq. Secretary
to the Treasury at Dublin.

LXXXV.

Princess Anne's child ill, &c.

London, Feb. 1st, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE looked often, and attended for your brother Phil, but one while so busy, another time abroad, that I cannot yet send you his sense. My Lord Ormonde has been looking at a house beyond Winchester; returns on Thursday next. No news at all, but great preparations, viz. canvassing for taking off the

* Sir Jonathan Trelawney, Bart. For an account of him, see page 4.

Test, &c. and the King is persuaded it will sort according to his desire. Pray let me know how matters sort on your side. The Princess Ann's younger child will die. The King hunts to-day. The new Treasurers go on in their work very diligently. Lord Rochester is much out of town. My affairs go but slowly: next week I urge my dernier effort.

Yours in haste.

(No address to this letter.)

LXXXVI.

Death of Princess Anne's daughter—Lord Tyrconnell driven back by weather.

5th Feb. 1687.

The beginning of February proves still fatal and unlucky to us here. Upon the 2d, the late King sickened; and upon the same three days ago, died the Lady Anne Sophia, youngest daughter of the Princess of Denmark, to the great grief of us all, and the more in that

it happened upon the heels of a miscarriage, and that the eldest daughter, *Lady Mary, lies desperately ill.* All this put together, may, I am afraid, too sensibly affect the Princess herself. I know no good to send you for all this bad news; pray God in his good time may. I beg you would send the inclosed to Mr. Roberts, and convey under your cover any from him. *We are told Lord Tyrconnell is driven back to Weston.**

Mr. Ellis.

LXXXVII.

Reports of Changes.

12th February, 1687.

JUST now I have the favour of yours of the 3d, and another from Mr. Carne of the 7th, which last tells us the first news of Lord Deputy's arrival.

I have but still more bad news to send you:

* Weston super Mare, a village in Somersetshire, on the Bristol Channel.

the Lady Mary was interred two nights ago; the Princess and Prince continue much indisposed, as well as much afflicted, but hope next week to be able to remove to Richmond. We talk of farther changes in the Household, and also in the Custom-house, and other offices. The vogue will have Lord Cheney,* Dickinson, and Clarke to be out on this side, and the Lord Longford, Aubrey, and Strong, on that. One Trindal and one Bolton (or some such names) are discoursed of as like to succeed them.

Mr. Ellis.

LXXXVIII.

Family Affairs.—Changes at Court, &c.

London, Feb. 12th, 1687.

I HAVE at last found Phill and his perpetual concomitant Sam with him. They

* Charles Cheyne, of an ancient Northamptonshire family, was created Viscount Cheyne of Newhaven, in the county of Edinburgh, (Scotch Honour) 17th of May, 1681. He was

were in haste, so I could say little; but at present you are in very ill circumstances with the Monk, for I would not hear, nor had he leisure to descend to particulars; but in general he declared you had used him as never one brother used another, in relation to Sam; and he said he would make me judge of it, but as yet I am not. He said he really designed to have put you into some place of five or six hundred pounds a year here, but you had forfeited all his favour in that point. I confess the loftiness of his strain made me jealous that whereas I only thought I had a private Monk by the hand, if I looked more narrowly I should espy some badge of more eminent character, as a gold-cross before or scarlet skull-cap behind. You must give me, per the first, full instructions how to submit, and how to ward and defend, for I must reconcile and make up the breach, for the stream runs every day

long a member of the English House of Commons; and dying in 1698, was buried in the church at Chelsea, the estate and manor of which place belonged to him.

stronger than other in that channel. I imagine their present bent that morning was to bring Sam into my Lord Melfort's* business and affairs, who is out-ing Middleton. The weather thickens apace. The King says he will dispense his favours equally between his Church of England subjects and his Romish, as in the two horse regiments, Talbot and Langdale, who, to the amazement of the Court, and more particularly of the King, threw it up upon the pretence of his age; but those that see nigher think the King's refusal of his son a troop of horse (whose reputation for bravery is none of

* The Honourable John Drummond, second son of James third Earl of Perth, was created Viscount Melfort by Charles the Second, and Earl of Melfort by James, who also, after his abdication, created him Duke of Melfort and Marquis of Forth. He was long Secretary of State in Scotland, and subsequently prime minister to James at St. Germain's, where he died in January 1714. His descendants, it is presumed, still exist in Germany. Melfort does not appear to have been so bad a man as his brother Perth, though he was undoubtedly corrupt and rapacious to a very considerable degree. Macky describes him as a man of ability, but "very proud, and not able to bear a rival in business."

the best) was the true cause. Sir John Fenwick* was likely to carry it, but it being on the red side, I believe Carlingford† has it. And in the White-staves, Yarmouth‡ and Walgrave§ is a like way of coupling. I think the large notions our old gentleman|| has of loyalty, keep him upon his ground. He is more jocose at Court of late, and his name more civilly treated by the red sort. I hear your board is upon the weeding. One Trindall, a mad sort of hare-brained fellow, that walked barefoot to Rome, for one, and one Poulton, or such a like name, which at present

* Sir John Fenwick, Bart. whose tragical end during the reign of King William, as well as the unusual and harsh measures which were resorted to to effect it, are well known.

† Nicholas (Taaffe) Earl of Carlingford; killed at the battle of the Boyne.

‡ William (Paston) second Earl of Yarmouth. He had married Lady Charlotte Boyle, alias Fitzroy, a natural daughter of Charles the Second, by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Killigrew, and wife of Francis (Boyle) Viscount Shannon. Lord Yarmouth died in 1732, when the honours of his family extinguished.

§ Henry first Lord Waldegrave.

|| The Duke of Ormonde.

I have forgot, but he is a great sharper at tennis, and was in Ireland, are named for two; but in whose rooms I know not. Dykevelt* came yesterday: in a few days we shall see if he will presume to turn up, and show who has black arts. I think Ireland is not that light matter abroad we make of it here. On Tuesday, I expect a push in Parliament for the Test, &c. Many strong matters in agitation. God speed the plough. I have no more time.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland, at Dublin.

Ireland.

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* Dykevelt was sent by the Prince of Orange Ambassador to England at this moment, "with directions how to talk with all sorts of people—with the King, with those of the Church, and with the Dissenters;" in short, to prepare the way for the Revolution. He had been previously in England during the reign of Charles, and was well acquainted with the state of parties there. Burnet remarks that he had great abilities, and an insinuating smoothness of temper; a perfect knowledge of the affairs of Europe, and great practice in many embassies.

LXXXIX.

Proposal to John Ellis to give up his Irish place, &c.

February 15th, 1687.

DEAR BROTHER,

I AM to thank you for your usquebagh, and for your letter of the 29th January, which I showed brother Phil. and discoursed him very seriously upon your concerns and mine, which I always join together, though I know you have two other solicitors on this side, that neither can nor will serve you with that sincerity I pretend to do. He seems much concerned at your refusal of the 200*l.* and declares his resentments so openly, that it is impossible but you must know what he says. He has got the King's word several times to me that he will provide for me. I have my hopes that he will take care to make the King's promise effectual, and that he will solicit; but it is impossible for me, among so many pretenders, to be able to subsist till the King can make good his promise. Phil. likewise believes that there will be great changes in the Commission,

and does not know but that some Catholic may supplant you, after all that could be said. He came to this resolution, that you standing ticklish, and not well-contented with your country and station, he proposes this, if you will transmit your place to me there, and come into England, he will use all the interest he has in the world to make you more considerable here than there; and to induce you the more, I assure you that you shall have such an allowance out of your present place as is reasonable, till you are provided for here to your content: this he would have done voluntarily, but I refused it without your consent, and making it your own act. This he would have writ himself, but he is but just recovered, and for that desires your pardon. This proposal he is so fond of, that he declares if you do not comply with it, and that immediately, he will take it so ill, that instead of a friend you must find him an enemy. This perhaps to a man that has negotiated business in the world as you have done, may seem strange, because it is plain; but it is accord-

ing to my instructions, and I desire you to consider of it, and whether you comply with his desire or not, let your answer be sudden; for, whatever your correspondents tell you here, there is nothing can be done here without him. Consider of this downright dealing seriously, and if any Irish post comes in without an answer, Phil. will believe you banter him; but however I am as I ever was,

Your loving brother,

And faithful,

S. Ellis.

To John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to His Majesty's Revenue in the kingdom of Ireland, at the Custom-house, Dublin.

XC.

Lord Tyrconnell in Ireland.—Speculations upon Dykevelt's coming.

26th Feb. 1687.

I have the favour of yours of the 11th instant, which told us the good news of Lord

Deputy's* arrival. We are told here that Earl of Clarendon is got on this side. The matters of discourse here at present are the occasion of Mr. Dykevelt's coming into England at this time, (which is kept very close as yet,) and the probability of changing the present truce of twenty years into a public peace between the Empire and France, and that before the last of March next. I am glad the alterations there do not affect you in your station.

Mr. Ellis.

XCI.

Family affairs.—Dykevelt with the King, &c.

London, Feb. 26th, 1687.

Yours of the 8th came hither on Wednesday the 23d, and that of the 16th last night. My Lord Clarendon landed on Monday at Nesson,† and probably is at Coventry to-night. I cannot see how he is to be received

* Lord Tyrconnell.

† Neston, in the county of Chester, close to Parkgate.

here: if he were no wiser than I, he would expect to be anticipated in his Court visit, and sent immediately to the Tower. I cannot reconcile the matter so as to leave any room for his coming to Court, for I have been long credibly informed the Privy Sealship* waited an alteration of person only, till the certainty of his landing. To strip a man of his clothes and then embrace him, is a Cæsar-Borgia sort of civility our great master is as great a stranger to in his practice as nature: he is not by any means for throwing a man down a cliff, and then bidding God guide him.† Your account

* The Privy Seal was given to Lord Arundell of Wardour, on the 11th of March, 1687.

† The conduct of James to Lord Clarendon was the very reverse of that expected by the writer of this letter; for he turned him out of all his offices, and alleged no fault of his as the cause of this harsh treatment. "Indeed," observes Evelyn, "it was very hard, and looked very unkindly, his Majesty (as my Lord Clarendon protested to me, on my going to visit him, and long discoursing about the affairs of Ireland) finding not the least failure of duty in him during his government of that kingdom, so that his recall plainly appeared to be from the stronger influence of the Papists, who now got all preferments."

of my friend Will's R^{s} flight is to me a wonder, for I always looked upon him as an adorer of a rising sun, and so assiduously that way bent, that he would sit up all night rather than miss the season; but I heard his spouse had taken her flight with poor hen-pecked John. My Lord Ormond's and Ossory's families went both to Cornbury this week, on Tuesday. The young gentleman comes up to his bed-chamber waiting the 6th following, then slips down again to return with them all together against Good Friday. You will be surprised to hear of your old friend Snarle's return; he tells me he was caught upon the hip, goes hence the week after, next through Yorkshire towards you. Henry Browne,* Lord Montacute's son, Mr. Ployden, and Trindall, prove vain in their boasts of becoming Commissioners of your Revenue, for it is sure

* The Honourable Henry Browne, son of Francis third Viscount Montacute. In 1708, he succeeded his brother Francis, the fourth Viscount, in the family honours and estates. He died in 1717.

fixed for one year, and the King's proceeding herein shows how cautiously he will offer at altering that stream out of its old channel. I am of opinion this old blade's coming will make another winter's snow fall the more easily upon your head, strengthen your patience, and renewing commissions, replenish your purse. I have lately made application (not without hopes of success) to my Lord Ossory, for the farm of Balli-kerry, near Carlow: it descended to him from my poor master,* is at present in the hands of Captain Evers's daughters, but their lease expires at Lady-day next. I am to pay their rent, 50*l.* a year; pray, as soon as it conveniently falls in your way, learn the true value of it, and be my intelligencer. I met with Sam the other day, and he tells me Phil's anger against you proceeds from not advancing the sum W's note was to credit; he says the Priest is not easily altered. I wait your direction, and shall proceed accordingly; but I do

* Lord Arran, the uncle of Lord Ossory.

not look upon myself in too good credit there, for they find I am not *banterable*. The strength of Dykvelt's message appears not yet; the King had him an hour in his closet after the delivery of his credentials, one from the States, one from the Pss* and another from the Pce,* which shows business from all three. The Court is much thronged with pretenders to commands, and superiors gaping to bite subalterns as deep as may be. Treasury favours distil very slowly, so that I have but poor markets thence. I was in hopes to have got a golden morsel, but it would not be. I have an idle sort of military employ in my eye, because of the fashion of red-coats: will not name it till I have it, because of great uncertainties in human affairs. Pray send the inclosed to G. Sympson: it is a sort of enquiry after one Rayne, a tide-waiter I brought over, and gave you no small trouble about, and Mr. Culliford, whose servant I shall

* The Prince and Princess of Orange.

be always, for the friendliness of his carriage in that matter. Pray give him my humble service.

I desire you to farther superscribe George Sympson's letter as is necessary, and to send your servant into Thomas-court, to Mr. Dupont's to enquire of my aunt Eustace's welfare, and if she can pay the note I left with you of 13*l.* odd money, and something more added since, of which she hath an account. I would be glad to know how it fares with the bay gelding I left with you. Dykevelt is in the gout, hinders his Court negotiation. The King got a hurt to day on his eye by a bough. Sir X^{tr} Wansford* is dead. Guard the foreign friend, Tho. Chu.; he is turned red.† . . . . . .

* Sir Christopher Wandesford was descended from an ancient Yorkshire family, settled in the county of Kilkenny, in Ireland. He had been Lord Deputy of that kingdom in the reign of Charles the First. His son was created Viscount Castlecomer in the year 1707, and his descendants were farther advanced in the Irish peerage in 1758, by the title of Earl of Wandesford. These honours became extinct in 1784.

† This caution relates to Mr. Thomas Chudleigh, who had been envoy in Holland; but what the allusion of his *being*

Pray let me know how the revenue holds in particulars, and a list of the military officers. Thomas Allen will give you one for me.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Dublin.

XCII.

5th March, 1687.

YOUR favour of the 24th is just come to hand, and besides thanks, return you Scotch for Irish prints.* Earl of Clarendon hath had several private audiences of the King. This place affords no news at present. Our Presbyterians think it a great indignity put upon them to be linked with Quakers and Romanists.

(No address to this letter.)

turned red means, it is impossible at this distance of time to know. Probably from the way in which the same word is used in a subsequent letter, *red* is intended to signify Roman Catholic, either in a religious or political sense.

* Newspapers.

XCIII.

Whitehall, March 5th, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

THOUGH I have done with you in business, I have not in kindness; and though a proffer of my service to you now when I am not capable of doing you any, would look very awkwardly, yet I cannot but tell you that I should be very glad to hear from you sometimes for old acquaintance; I mean, hear from yourself as Jack Ellis, and not from the Revenue as Mr. Secretary, for I have no manner of curiosity for that which I have nothing to do with.

I have often discoursed with Sir G. F. concerning you: he wishes you very well, I am confident, but cannot tell how to bring your desires to pass at present, and what he will be able to do for the future, God only knows.

My Lord Clarendon and his family arrived here very well on Thursday night last. The King received him very kindly, and his

Lordship is in very good humour. I am entirely

Dear Sir,

Your affectionate

And faithful servant,

FRANCIS GWYN.

Mrs. Margaret Tyrell died this week of the small-pox.

(No address to this letter.)

XCIV.

Foreign news.—Lord Spencer's conduct at Bury.

London, March 5th, 1687.

I HAD yours of the 22d with the list, but I would gladly have the army as regimented, and subalterns. Thomas Allen's son can do that as well as this. Old Chitchley* hath lost his Dutchy Seals, and Arundell of Wardour has them, but it is thought won't be content-

* Sir Thomas Chichley, one of the Commissioners of the Ordnance, and a Privy Councillor.

ed without your quondam Lieutenant's* too. He came on Thursday well attended, was last night in long conference with the King, to as much purpose as he was the year on your side. His son† is in danger of losing all his employments, as I hear too. The French King hath complimented the Emperor with an assurance of preserving the truce inviolable, or erecting it into a perpetual peace; but this was the effect of a severe remonstrance from the Pope, as to what his preparations meant on the Emperor's frontier. They are inquisitively curious to know from Holland what is meant by Dykevelt's being here. I cannot yet be assured, but to judge at a nearer view how matters pass, may be the principal part of it, Zitters‡ being too uxorious a sort of man, and not active enough for the present times. All goes red-wise; and it is the general opinion the Parliament cannot

* Lord Clarendon. The passage alludes to the Privy Seal.

† Lord Cornbury.

‡ Van Zitters, the ordinary Envoy from the States General to the British Court.

sit. The work of closeting, however, seems not at an end, but is directed where some place is rather aimed at, than any prospect of the business that is pressed. Lord Spencer* has been rude at Bury, to that degree to draw his sword, give the parson ill language in his pulpit, and offer pulling him thence; but the auditors made a severe example of his roystering honour, beating, disrobing, and dragging him through the kennel, and says the account worse, but what that will prove I know not. His father has desired the King, with great earnestness, to cashier and imprison him. They call here Dickinson's coming to you, falling gently.

* Robert Lord Spencer, eldest son of Robert Earl of Sunderland. He appears to have been a wild and profligate young man. Evelyn, who was intimate with, and partial to the Spencer family, mentions him as contrasted with his younger brother, who was afterwards Charles Earl of Sunderland. "Mr. Charles Spencer, a youth of extraordinary hopes, very learned for his age, and ingenious, and under a governor of great worth. Happy were it could as much be said of the elder brother, the Lord Spencer." Robert Lord Spencer died at Paris in 1688.

Lord Ossory is come this evening, but I have not seen him.

Yours in great haste.

12 at night.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

XCV.

Death of the Bishop of St. David's.—Philip Ellis's Sermon.

13th March, 1687.

The greatest piece of news I can tell you at present is, that the Bishop of St. David's * is dead; and that his Majesty hath been pleased of his own mere motion to name to succeed him, Dr. Lloyd,† Principal of Jesus in Oxford, as being a friend of Sir L. Jenkins.

We have a sermon of Father Dom. P. E.

* Dr. Laurence Womack, Archdeacon of Suffolk.

† Dr. John Lloyd, who died a few months after he obtained the see of St. David's.

preached before their Majesties at Windsor, the 1st of October,* which I suppose is your cadet. It is a great novelty here, being the first of the kind. I would send it you, but that I suppose you have it from the author.

Pray, when occasion offers, think of poor Will. Price, and mind my Lord Longford of his promise three years ago to my Lord Bulkeley,† which may quicken his Lordship to do something for the poor man

Mr. Ellis.

XCVI.

Farther Court news and changes.

London, March 15th, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE but just time to tell you, the Gazette contains well nigh as much Whitehall

* This is the sermon mentioned by Granger, and alluded to in the account of the family of Ellis prefixed to these letters.

† Robert, second Viscount Bulkeley, long member of Parliament for the Island of Anglesey. He died 1688.

news as I can tell you. Lord Oxford* will sink the next man; hath been closeted, and his answer depending, as also Sir Christopher Musgrave's.† Golden days with many here. Lord Montague very nigh disrobing poor Count Preston;‡ and poor Lady Rochester § near death inevitably. Will. Robinson,|| who is in Atterbury's hands, at the instigation of your Chief Governor, and by the management of Lord Dartmouth, will be out to-morrow, giving

* Aubrey (De Vere) twentieth and last Earl of Oxford of that family. He fell into disgrace with James, and joined King William shortly after his arrival in this country.

† Sir Christopher was now Lieutenant-general of the Ordnance.

‡ This must allude to Richard (Graham) Viscount Preston; but what office the intriguing Montagu wanted to deprive him of, I cannot discover.

§ Henrietta Boyle, youngest daughter of Richard first Earl of Burlington, by his wife Elizabeth Clifford, daughter and heiress of Henry Earl of Cumberland.

|| Mr. William Robinson had been employed by Lord Clarendon to forward military stores to Ireland, respecting which there seems to have been some difficulty as to passing his accounts. He was also auditor of the Royal Hospital at Dublin, and had become a purchaser of some of the forfeited estates in Ireland.

security to adjust his accounts. Phil. is out of town; and Sam. rails bitterly against Will. for denying to perfect the sale of the houses here.

I wish the bay horse sold for 18*l.* or 20*l.* The post is going.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

XCVII.

19th March, 1687.

A PROCLAMATION was ordered last night for proroguing of the Parliament to the 22d of November next, and at the same time a Declaration ordered to be drawn for a general toleration of all religions. I find some that are much joyed at it; but others seem to be less transported than they were in 1672, and do not seem to have yet resolved whether to accept or refuse the benefit of it. Some, you know, there are, will run counter to all the acts of Government. I am sorry to find by Will

Price, you have not only been importuned by him so long, but * * * * * †

Mr. Ellis.

XCVIII.

Good health of the Ormonde family.

Cornberry, March 21st, 1687.

SIR,

THOUGH I know you have little time to spare for impertinent letters, yet I think myself so highly obliged to own your favours to my kinsman, that I hope you will excuse what gratitude occasions; and I must farther desire you will give my humble service and thanks to your brother, Mr. William Ellis, who I understand has been very civil and kind to my cousin Nobbs. He makes great acknowledgments to you both for your favours, and I hope he will acquit himself with faithfulness and diligence in all he undertakes, and so long he shall be sure to have my hearty concern for him. I am extremely glad, that amongst the many removes of our friends in Ireland, you still

† So in the original.

keep your station, where I wish you a long continuance, except you remove to one more advantageous. The only thing I have to make this scribble acceptable to you is, to send you the good news of my Lord Duke's, my Lord Ossory's, and Lord Thurles'* healths, who are all as well as you can wish them; and truly, I never saw a more promising, prosperous child than the young Lord is. We have Lord Ossory, and his lady, and him here; and my Lord Duke is not only much diverted, but very fond of him. Mr. Clarke sends his humble service to you and your brother. We are in a place affords no news, and therefore I shall conclude this trouble with my humble service, and the assurance of my being,

Sir,

Your most affectionate, humble servant,

ELIZA CLARKE.

For John Ellis, Esq, Secretary to the Commissioners of the Revenue in Ireland.

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* Thomas, the infant son of Lord Ossory. He was born September 26th, 1686, and died February 27th, 1689.

XCIX.

Nell Gwynne dying.—Closeting continues.

London, March 22d, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I HAD yours of the 4th; have not since seen Sam, or the Monk; the latter much out of town. I dare not promise you much help, either from the solicitation of one, or friendship (to omit brotherly affection) of the other; but as for taking care of exposing me to storms, never think of that, for I am weather-proof where the interest of my friend is concerned. I think it would not be amiss you writ to Sir Stephen Fox, that he may keep such a man in his memory; and the furtherance of your old friend Tho. Ch.* would not do amiss, though Fame continues to say what I told you. Lord Ossory went again to Cornbury when his waiting week was out; I could get little talk. His grandsire and he go thence to Bath next week, return to Cornbury again, and hither three weeks hence.

* Sir Thomas Chichley.

The Gazette will tell much. The life of this Parliament looks very short; Sir John Trevor * gives way to Allibone speedily. Colonel Cornwall has laid down his regiment, or it is thought he will; many say he did last night. Mrs. Nelly † is dying of an apoplexy; her son will go for Hungary, and return a good Catholic, as thought. Utensils about him are preparing like it, and his mother acquainted with it, and the fraternity ‡ to come upon the same foot, or give way as to their advantageous stations.

* Sir John Trevor was Master of the Rolls, and Speaker of the House of Commons. It was probably in the first of these places that Sir Richard Allibone, a puisné Judge of the Court of King's Bench, was expected to succeed him; which change, however, did not take place. Sir John Trevor was expelled the House of Commons, in March 1694, he being then Speaker, in consequence of his having received a gratuity of 1000*l.* from the Chamber of the City of London, for the services he had rendered to them in procuring the success of a bill in which they were interested. "He was a bold and dexterous man;" but corrupt and unprincipled.

† Nell Gwynne. Her son was the first Duke of St. Alban's.

‡ Meaning the other sons of Charles the Second, the Dukes of Richmond, Grafton, Southampton, and Northumberland.

Seven hundred and eighty thousand in the Exchequer; a mighty stock now, the great discoverers of foreign correspondence said. Sunderland in the vogue not what he was, gone to Althrop, as Dr. Styles to the Queen's County was used.

The closeting* affair not over yet, daily new trials undergone, never deeper intrigues, nor higher hopes of great matters.

Earl Clarendon much in private with the King, but I cannot see any thing extraordinary can come of it. Will. Robinson out of custody, will come back, though not fond of it. One Giles is made Lieutenant of the Ordnance, and Povey Comptroller with you.

Direct at Mr. Malkin's, an upholsterer, near the Palace gate, St. James's.

The list of Sheriffs will much oblige.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

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* The term of *closeting* was grown almost into a proverb; in consequence of the King's habit of endeavouring to influence and convince those whose principles he was dissatisfied with,

C.

Farther changes reported.—Declaration of Toleration.—Rumours respecting Parliament.

London, March 29th, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I HAD yours of the 22d this morning, because I have lately changed my lodgings, so as the letter-carriers could not, or had not time to find me last night. Sam. I can by no means find to-day, yet hope it before the post goes away, though I am in some fear he is out of town in order to see the Monk, whose health is very imperfect, and body emaciated. Here is Major General Macarty* arrived, lay some days privately in town before appearance, by the vogue of it has got the Constableship of the Tower, or some considerable jurisdiction in it; but Cheeke will surely out, and who of that sort can stay

by conversing with them one by one in his closet. He was particularly addicted to this custom with regard to the Members of the House of Commons.

* General Maccarty was an Irish Roman Catholic, of the family of the Earls of Clancarty. He was for some time in the French service, and afterwards commanded a regiment in Ireland.

in I do not see ere long. Admiral Herbert's regiment is also given him by the same bountiful hands, who makes up every man's mouth as he can wish. The newsmongers' letters are daily crammed with extravagant changes, to by-standers at Court very improbable. The Declaration for Toleration of Religion is very full and absolute.* The Chancellor has denied signing it (as a Peer told me.)

I expect this Parliament should be dissolved,†

* Burnet's account of this measure is as follows:—"In April the King set out a Declaration of Toleration and liberty of conscience for England. In the preamble, the King expressed his aversion to persecution on account of religion, and the necessity that he found of allowing his subjects liberty of conscience, in which he did not doubt the concurrence of his Parliament. He renewed his promise of maintaining the Church of England, as it was by law established; but with this he suspended all penal and sanguinary laws in matters of religion; and, since the service of all his subjects was due to him by the laws of nature, he declared them all equally capable of employments, and suppressed all oaths and tests that limited this. In conclusion, he promised he would maintain all his subjects in all their properties, and particularly in the possession of the Abbey Lands."

† The Parliament was dissolved during the Spring of this year.

and another called after Michaelmas; and if that will not do, your charters and other affairs will be so settled, to show a good example. The holy week has laid all business asleep, but a few days will bring new matters to light.

For me at Mr. Malkin's, an upholsterer, near the Palace-gate, St. James's.

I would be glad of the lists I have desired. I am well content, your charrs had savour.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Dublin.

CI.

Declaration of Toleration.—Duke of Grafton going to Lisbon.

London, April 5th, 1687.

I WISH yours to Sam. had the event you wished it. The Monk is still out of town, and loves, I think, to be so. We are brimful of expectation to have high matters of news to send you, but all keeps under the bushel yet. The Toleration is in the press; was last night read in Council, and underwent some altera-

tions there. Brent and Penn* are said to have had great hands in the draft of it. The latter is much at Court, and often in the King's closet. We talk much of calling in all patents, especially under the Household government, and giving others at pleasure with *non obstante's* to the Test, and the commissions of the Army all altered after the same manner. Prince George seems much indisposed. I like not the unwholesomeness of his looks; is gone to Richmond with his Princess. In part the occasion of this is upon Sir Charles Feilding's account, that you would use your interest with your brother Will to alter his carriage towards him a little, for he thinks he designs to mine him out without any inclination of my Lord Deputy's towards it: pray moderate in the matter a little, and you will oblige me. The 15th, Lord Duke of Or^d and my Lord Ossory came to town. My advice is that you write yourself to him and Sir Stephen Fox at once,

* The illustrious William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania.

and I will solicit Lord Ossory's seconding that; and whatever promises can be gained from Sir Stephen,* I will at convenient seasons dun for performance. The Duke of Grafton goes to transport this Newburg-Princess† to Lisbon to marry the King of Portugal, and hath two second-rates ships and four thirds.

Yours, J. F.

Pray send the inclosed.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

CII.

Rumours of Appointments.—Camp on Hounslow Heath.—Affairs of Cambridge and Oxford.

London, April 19th, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I HAD yours of the 2d per post, and 7th per I know not whom. I am sorry to see both

* Sir Stephen Fox.

† Mary Elizabeth, daughter of William Elector Palatine, married the 2d of July, 1687, to Peter the Second, King of Portugal, and mother to King John the Fifth.

show your Excellency so low. Your brother Monk recovers and revives with the spring. I have not seen him of late, but hear he is coming to town. What is gone with Sam I cannot gather, not having met him in my travels a great while. Colonel M'Carty hath great hopes of some considerable station here, but it is yet in the dark; all the story of the Tower hath no certain ground. Sackville Tufton* hath Herbert's regiment. The Captains of the ships were named to Pepys to-day, but the happy men are not yet known. The foot sit down upon Hownslow the 8th of May, and horse join them the 15th of June. Whoever is your Secretary of Trade, I am apt to believe, would make no great scruple of changing with Blaithwaite. The King visits Richmond often,

* The Honourable Sackville Tufton, fifth son of John second Earl of Thanet and of his wife Margaret, the eldest of the two daughters and coheiresses of Richard Earl of Dorset and of his wife the celebrated Anne Clifford, Countess of Dorset, Pembroke, and Montgomery. Sackville Tufton was Governor of Tilbury Fort, and Colonel of a regiment of Guards, and was the father of Sackville seventh Earl of Thanet.

makes it his hunting-quarter twice a week, and most commonly attends the Queen thither with great civility. The Cantabrigians that refused the King's mandate, are summoned to attend the Ecclesiastical Commissioners on Thursday. A general suspension of the offenders is the common vogue;* and the Magdalens † at Oxon.

* The King had sent his mandamus to Cambridge, ordering the University to grant the degree of Master of Arts to Francis, a Benedictine monk. The University refused, in spite of all the threats which were used by the Court to compel them to compliance. The Vice-Chancellor was summoned before the Ecclesiastical Commission, who turned him out of his office, which was the conclusion of this affair.

† In the case of Magdalen College, of which the headship was vacant, the King sent a mandamus to the Fellows, commanding them to elect one Farmer, "an ignorant and vicious person," but who was one of the converts to the Roman Catholic religion. The fellows preferred choosing Dr. Hough, and the cause was in consequence referred to the Ecclesiastical Commission. The Commission put the college under suspension, declared Hough's election void, and ordered the Fellows to choose Parker, Bishop of Oxford, a Roman Catholic. This they steadily refused to do, though the King, as he passed through Oxford this year (1687), sent for them, and threatened them in person, "treating them," as Burnet observes, "with foul language pronounced in a very angry

will fare alike for choosing Mr. Hough,* and not whom the King ordered. The Pope's Envoy is to turn Nuncio as soon as his bills and Bulls come, that he may receive the episcopal robe. The Princess and Lady Ossory are both with child. Lord Duke moderately lamed with the gout. Now, or never, for application to Sir Stephen per Lord Ossory. I have had a good account of the farm of Balli-kerryn. I thank you for the last inclosed, and shall give you more for the army and revenue.

I would be glad to know how wool rules with you, and what the charge of packing is.

tone." Finally, the President and Fellows were all turned out, and Parker put in possession. Things continued in this state till September 1688, when the King, frightened by the proceedings of the Prince of Orange, and the disaffection prevalent through England, allowed Hough and the ejected Fellows to be reinstated.

* Dr. John Hough, afterwards successively Bishop of Oxford, Lichfield and Coventry, and Worcester; but principally remarkable for his admirable conduct in resisting the arbitrary measures of James upon the occasion alluded to in the text. Pope has immortalized him by his mention of "Hough's unsullied mitre."

Some Dissenters address to the King by way of thanks; Quakers through Penn's own spirit. Anabaptists, and Wade with some western rebels, gave florid thanks yesterday, first for their lives, then for liberty of conscience. The Presbyterians will not do it.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

CIII.

Death of the Duke of Buckingham, and Lady Dorset.—Law changes.

London, St. George, April 23d, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I HAD yours of the 12th, and heartily thank you for the inclosed. I have not seen Sam. since the time he had your letter. I wish he may do well for himself: his understanding will carry him up to a good pitch in business; but I beg your pardon for dealing so freely with you, I do confess I have great jealousies

of his diligence, though heretofore, in the execution of the Bayliwick, sure he could not have performed so well without an irreprovable share of it. I assumed the boldness to tell him it would turn to better account if he were more above-stairs in Whitehall, and less below in Scotland-yard. Possibly he is with Phil. all this while, twenty miles off, where he is said to be gathering a competent stock of health to hold forth here again with. The Duke of Bucks, who hath some time supported himself with artificial spirits, on Friday fell to a more manifest decay, and on Sunday yielded up the ghost at Helmesley, in Yorkshire, in a little ale-house,* (where these eight months he hath

* This contemporary account of the death of George Villiers, second Duke of Buckingham, is curious, as showing the grounds upon which Pope wrote his pathetic description of the decease of this nobleman; and yet it would appear that the statement of his extreme penury and desertion was much exaggerated. He died not "in the worst inn's worst room," but in the house of one of his tenants, in the town of Kirby Moorside, which still exists, and must have been at the time one of the best houses in the place. He had caught cold by sitting on the ground after fox-hunting, which brought on

been without meat or money, deserted of all his servants almost.) Old Lady Dorsett* gave

internal inflammation. The following letter from Lord Arran, afterwards Duke of Hamilton, (to Dr. Sprat, who had been Chaplain to the Duke of Buckingham,) which appeared in the Whitehall Evening Post, January 3d, 1784, and has every appearance of being authentic, gives the most credible and detailed account of the death of the conspicuous nobleman in question.

Kerby-moor syde, April 17, 1687.

"My Lord,

"Mere chance having thrown me into these parts, by accident, as I was at York, in my journey towards Scotland, I heard of the Duke of Buckingham's illness here, which made me take a resolution of waiting upon his Grace, to see what condition he was in. I arrived here on Friday in the afternoon, where I found him in a very low condition: he had been long ill of an ague, which had made him weak, but his understanding was as good as ever, and his noble parts were so entire, that though I saw death in his looks at first sight, he would by no means think of it. He told me he was on horseback but two days before, and that he found himself so well at heart, that he was sure he could be in no danger of his life. He told me he had a mighty descent fallen upon his abdomen, with an inflammation and a great swelling, but he thought by applying warm medicines the swelling would fall, and then he would be at ease: but it

* See note *, p. 281.

way this week too, and Mr. Powell now shows his silent civility was not without a prospect

proved otherwise; for a mortification came on those low parts, and rapidly ascended, so that it soon occasioned his death. So soon as I had arrived, I sent to York for one Dr. Waler, for I found him here in a most miserable condition: he desired me to stay with him, which I very willingly obeyed. I confess it made my heart bleed to see the Duke of Buckingham in so pitiful a place, and in so bad a condition; and, what made it worse, he was not at all sensible of it, for he thought in a day or two he should be well; and when we minded him of his condition, he said it was not so as we apprehended. The doctors told me his case was desperate, and though he enjoyed the free exercise of his senses, that in a day or two at most it would kill him; but they durst not tell him of it; so they put a hard part upon me to pronounce death to him, which I saw approaching so fast, that I thought it was high time for him to think of another world, for it was impossible for him to continue long in this. So I sent for a very worthy gentleman, Mr. Gibson, a neighbour of his Grace's, who lives but a mile from this place, to be an assistant to me in this work; so we jointly represented his condition to him, who I saw was at first very uneasy: but I think we should not have discharged the duty of honest men, or I of a faithful kinsman, if we had suffered him to go out of this world without desiring him to prepare for death, and to look into his conscience.

"After having plainly told him his condition, I asked him who I should send for to be assistant to him during the small time he had to live: he would make me no answer, which

and project to be well paid in the end for it, being about to confirm her will, which may be

made me conjecture, and having formerly heard that he had been inclining to be a Roman Catholic, I asked him if I should send for a priest; for I thought any act that could be like a Christian, was what his condition now wanted most; but he positively told me he was not of that persuasion, and so would not hear any more on that subject, for he was of the Church of England; but hitherto he would not hear of a parson, though he had declared his aversion to my offering to send for a priest. But after some time, beginning to feel his distemper mount, he desired me to send for the parson of this parish, who said prayers for him, which he joined in very freely, but still did not think he should die; though this was yesterday at seven in the morning, and he died about eleven at night.

"Mr. Gibson asked him if he had made a will, or if he would declare who was to be his heir; but to the first he answered that he had made none, and to the last, whoever was named, he always answered 'No.' First, my Lady Duchess was named, and then I think almost every body that had any relation to him; but his answer was always 'No:' and to see if he would change any way the answer or manner of it, they asked him if my Lord Purbeck was to be sent for, but to that he answered, 'By no means.' I did fully represent my Lady Duchess's condition to him, and told him it was absolutely fit, during the time he had the exercise of his reason, to do something to settle his affairs; but nothing that was said to him could make him come to any point.

40,000*l.* in his way by personal estate, and hath locked up the doors at Knowle* in order to it.

"I then said, that since he would do nothing in his worldly affairs, I desired he might die like a Christian; and since he called himself of the Church of England, the parson was ready here to administer the sacrament to him; which he said he would take: so accordingly I gave orders for it, and two other honest gentlemen received with him, Mr. Gibson and Colonel Liston, an old servant of his Grace's. At first he called out three or four times, for he thought the ceremony looked as if death was near, which for the strength of his noble parts (they not being yet affected) he could not easily believe; for all this time he was not willing to take death to him; but in a few moments after he became calm, and received the sacrament with all the decency imaginable, and in an hour afterwards he lost his speech, and continued so till eleven at night, when he died.

"The confusion he has left his affairs in, will make his heir, whoever he be, very uneasy. To tell you truly, I believe there is no other will in being, but what they say is in the trustees' hands; for all the servants say, they knew there was a parchment sealed, which my Lord said he would alter, which they looked upon to be his will: whether he has cancelled it, I cannot find: some say one Mr. Burrell has it; but nobody here can give any distinct account of it: but my Lord himself said positively, in the presence of several, that he had no will in being; so what to make of this I cannot tell you.

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* The seat of Lady Dorset, in Kent.

These, I confess, were great and illustrious people, but in my travel I meet with more lamen-

We supposed that it might be Sir William Villiers, that he intended for his heir; but he said several times, before us all, 'No;' so that I cannot imagine, if he has any will, to whom he has given it, I myself being as nearly related to him as any by full blood. Mr. Brian Fairfax, and Mr. Gibson, have been witnesses of my proceedings since my being here; I hope they will give an account of it. I thought in honour I could not leave him in this condition, being so nearly related to him; especially his Grace being in such a retired corner, where there was nobody but myself till I sent for this Mr. Gibson. My Lord Fairfax, of Gilling, came yesterday in the afternoon; but he was speechless when he came.

"I have ordered the corpse to be embalmed, and carried to Helmsley Castle, and there to remain till my Lady Duchess's pleasure shall be known. There must be speedy care taken; for there is nothing here but confusion, not to be expressed. Though his stewards have received vast sums, there is not so much as one farthing, as they tell me, for defraying the least expense: but I have ordered his intestines to be buried at Helmsley, where his body is to remain till farther orders.

"Being the nearest kinsman upon the place, I have taken the liberty to give his Majesty an account of his death; and have sent his George and blue ribbon, to be disposed of as his Majesty shall think fit: I have addressed it under cover to my Lord President, to whom I beg you would carry the bearer the minute he arrives.

tation for the loss of old Loquett than either of the others. Our gown-men have been

"I have given orders that nothing should be embezzled, and for that reason, as soon as my Lord died, I called to see his strong box, but before Mr. Bryan Fairfax and Mr. Gibson: I found nothing of moment in it, but some loose letters of no concern; but such as they are, I have ordered them to be locked up, and delivered to my Lady Duchess; as also the small plate and linen he had, I have committed to the care of Lord Fairfax.

"So now that I have given your Lordship this particular account of every thing, I have nothing more to do, but to assure your Lordship, that I am,

"My Lord,

"Your Lordship's most assured

"Friend and humble servant,

"ARRAN."

The only memorial of the death of this once great man, remaining at Kirby Moorside, is an entry in an old register of burials, which runs thus:—"1687, April 17th, Gorges villus, Lord dooke of bookingam!"

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* Frances Cranfield, daughter to Lionel (Cranfield) first Earl of Middlesex, and Lord Treasurer, and at length heiress of her brother Lionel third Earl of Middlesex, married to Richard (Sackville) fifth Earl of Dorset. She was subsequently married to Henry Powle, Esq, to whom allusion is made in the text, who was made Master of the Rolls in 1689.

strong at struggle these several days. Sir Francis Withens* was unbuttoning his doublet last night, well enough satisfied with himself and his conscience, when a quietus was brought him to disturb his rest; and my Lord Chief Justice Herbert was sent down to the Common Pleas, and Wright seated in the King's Bench. He expects thence to go to the bar, and yet will not acknowledge his brother the Admiral† was a bladder of support to him. My Lord Chancellor shows illustriously, and wrought this work by the strength of his own arm. Lord Sunderland gets the better we think before

* Withens had been expelled the House of Commons, in 1680, for signing a petition against the calling of a Parliament. For this the Court made him a Judge. In the trial of Algernon Sydney, he behaved most indecently, and gave the prisoner the lie in open Court. He appears to have been a base corrupt man.

† Arthur Herbert, created Earl of Torrington by King William, whom he had joined while he was still in Holland. Burnet says of him that "he was upon every occasion sullen and peevish, and delivered up to pride and luxury. Yet he had a good understanding." He died without issue, April 14th, 1716.

. . . . . .* from a cloud the sun always appears brighter.

CIV.

Family Affairs.

April 26th, 1687.

DEAR BROTHER,

I HAVE now seventy pounds, and thank you for it, but the sum is so inconsiderable, that it is eaten up before it comes, and had it come before this, it had hindered a great misfortune that has befel me. I was advised, in order to put some end to actions against me, to exhibit a bill in Exchequer, and bring the whole to account by an Auditor in that Court, but this would cost me *5l.* While I waited for this money, my adversaries, taking advantage of brother Philip's being sick in the country, got leave of the Green-cloth to take me in the Court after such a day; so that I am banished thence, and therefore can never hope to get an employment, where I dare not appear. Being in

* So in the original.

this condition, I find no retreat but Ireland, whither it is the opinion of all my friends I ought to go, because I shall never be quiet, and never can hope to get so much together as to compound with them, nor so much as to subsist on here. This being resolved on, I have a favour to desire of you, that you would send me word of any thing that I may ask the King to come over with; that will look better than coming empty-handed, and yet I cannot avoid coming, my case is so very bad. Do not throw this letter by, but think of it, and let me hear as soon as you can conveniently. Direct yours to be left for me at the Convent. Pray once more remember me, and believe things are very bad with me, when I make Ireland a refuge.

I am,
Your loving Brother and Servant,
S. E.*

To John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in the Kingdom of Ireland, at the Custom-house, Dublin.

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* Samuel Ellis.

CV.

Addresses of Dissenters in consequence of Declaration of Toleration.

30th April, 1687.

SIR,

I HAVE had very little worth the writing to you of late, and had it not been for these Dutchmen should have nothing now to entertain you. The King hath received the addresses of the Presbyterians and Quakers; and gave both of them his gracious answer at large. One of the Presbyters said he never heard a man speak better, and I overhearing him, desired him to go and practise what was recommended to him, which was to teach his hearers to be good Christians, and then the King did not doubt but they would be good subjects. The King goes down to Chatham next week for some weeks. We know not yet when the new Queen of Portugal will be at the waterside; the Duke of Grafton and his squadron are ready.

Mr. Ellis.

CVI.

London, May 3d, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

THE Court being at Windsor, this place is as quiet as that region of the air elevated above the winds and storms. The Judges went on Sunday to Windsor, called thither, as we suppose, to bring over your Irish cattle with a *non-obstante*; but I hear not the certainty, though, if it prove so, this post will bring it you. I imagine your Government will change. Lord Powis seems likeliest to me, but an angel could not quickly raise your revenue, which pray let me know how it stands. I desire you to send the inclosed, but where she lives I know not. Lord Ossory keeps in town, and Lord Duke remains weak in his limbs in the gout. We talk of a new Scotch order of the Thistle,* &c. I am yours in haste, being ready to take horse for Windsor.

Yours, J. F.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland,
Dublin.

* The Order of the Thistle, which had lain dormant

CVII.

Cleonger in Herefordshire, May 9th, 1687.

MY HONEST FRIEND,

AFTER several hardships, and a tedious voyage and hazardous, I landed at Neston, on the 2d of May, at almost one of the clock in the morning, and happily reached home by Friday noon, to the satisfaction of myself and family. I have seen several of my friends, but know no news except what will come to you by print or public letter. I shall make use of the time given me to settle my affairs, and as soon as that is done return with my family, which seems unwilling to part with me so long again, and in that we both agree. I think I shall not see your great city, for I am willing to return to my duty and brethren, to see (if possible we may) to save a sinking revenue.

since the death of James the Fifth of Scotland, was revived by the King's letters patent of the 29th of May, 1687, and several Knights were in consequence named. During the reign of William, it appears to have been again neglected; but Anne restored it in 1703, and it has ever since continued in use as a decoration.

Do me right to all my friends, the Lord Longford, J. Price, and others, such as you think have any true kindness for me. I am sure you have, and therefore in justice I can do no less than assure you that I am,

Yours unfeignedly,

H. AUBREY.

Direct yours to me in Hereford.

Commend me to brother Godwyn; he shall have a letter by the next.

To Mr. John Ellis, at the Custom-house in Dublin.

CVIII.

Dykevelt's conduct.—Lord Devonshire indicted in the Court of King's Bench.—Military removals.

London, May 10th, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

THAT I have not writ to you since the 23d of the past month is much my fault. Your brother Monk, I hope, supplied that want well, for he promised me to do it, and spoke much

more in a friendly tone than heretofore. The way, which it seems I did not explain, of Will's intermeddling with Sir F. Feilding, was upon the account of his lodge; but I think the wind is overblown. Bonripeaux is come from France to adjust some more American matters. Our Englishmen are like to be disbanded in Holland, and yet they are making up complete there 44,000 men. Dykevelt carries himself very high, and seems fondest of those that the Court think worst affected; keeps a great table. Lord Devon* was yesterday indicted at the

* This refers to the quarrel which took place within the verge of the Court between Lord Devonshire, afterwards the first Duke of that title, and Colonel Thomas Colepeper. The circumstance is thus related by a contemporary and eye-witness:—"1685, July 9th. Just as I was coming into the lodgings at Whitehall, a little before dinner, my Lord of Devonshire standing very neare his Majesty's bed-chamber doore in the lobby, came Colonel Culpeper, and in a rude manner looking my Lord in the face, asked whether this was a time and place for excluders to appeare; my Lord, at first, took little notice of what he said, knowing him to be a hot-headed fellow; but he reiterating it, my Lord asked Culpeper if he meant him; he said yes, he meant his Lordship. My Lord told him, he was no excluder (as indeed he was not); the

King's Bench for his Court miscarriage; pleaded privilege; hath since to the first day of next term; will sure be fined swingingly, 50,000*l.* at least; but I am apt to believe, that fine being filed, it will be generously granted off. He hath petitioned very submissively, and my

other affirming it again, my Lord told him he lied, on which Culpeper struck him a box on the eare, which my Lorde returned, and felled him. They were soon parted, Culpeper was seized, and his Majesty, who was all the while in his bedchamber, ordered him to be carried to the Green Cloth officer, who sent him to the Marshalsea as he deserved. My Lord Devon had nothing said to him."—Evelyn's Diary. Subsequently, as appears by this letter, Lord Devonshire was prosecuted in the Court of King's Bench, upon an information, and had a fine of 30,000*l.* imposed upon him. Upon his refusal to pay it, he was, notwithstanding his pleading privilege of peerage, confined in the King's Bench prison, from which however he made his escape. After the Revolution, the House of Lords did him full justice by coming to the following resolution:—" That the Court of King's Bench, in overruling the Earl of Devonshire's plea of privilege of Parliament, and forcing him to plead over in chief, it being the usual time of privilege, did thereby commit a manifest breach of the privilege of Parliament; and that the fine of 30,000*l.* imposed, by the Court of King's Bench, upon the Earl of Devonshire, was excessive and exorbitant, against Magna Charta, the common right of the subject, and the law of the land."

Lord Dunbarton is his indefatigable advocate: for the speech he made in his behalf in the Commons House, when the Plot Parliament was banishing him. Lord Woster's* regiment is given to Lord Montgomery,† the Papists say per surrendry, the cashiered Lord cries aloud by closeting. I suppose you approve not of the application I proposed to Sir Stephen per Lord Ossory. I should be glad to serve you your own way. Lord Duke is still weak

* Charles Marquis of Worcester, eldest son of Henry (Somerset) first Duke of Beaufort. "He was," say the Peerages, "a nobleman of great parts and learning, and died in the lifetime of his father, in the thirty-eighth year of his age, unhappily leaping out of his coach, to avoid the danger he was exposed to by the unruliness of the horses running down a steep hill with him; whereby he received a violent bruise, and broke his thigh-bone, of which he died, on July 13th, 1698."

† William Viscount Montgomery, only son of William (Herbert) first Marquis of Paris. He was restored to his titles after the death of his father, who had been outlawed. His eldest daughter, the eccentric Lady Mary Herbert, is the person mentioned in Pope's celebrated lines—

"But nobler scenes Maria's dreams unfold,—
Hereditary realms, and worlds of gold."

in joints per gout, but no otherwise indisposed. Our great lawyers justle and tread hard upon one another's heels.

Yours.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland,
Ireland. Dublin.

CIX.

Expected Marriages.—Duke of Albemarle's gains in Jamaica. —Sir H. Savile and Sir J. Lowther going to Paris.

London, May 14th, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I HAD yours of the 30th past very lately, and have urged my Lord Ossory as effectually as I can; but I still find self-interest predominant, and must be so plain in my information to tell you, without you come over, nothing will be perfected to your advantage: they want not good inclinations towards you; but the stead you stand them in, where you are, imports more than your preferment here.

As for news, the King hath had a touch of the gout, but unwilling to believe it so: cannot draw on a boot, but yet was through his military ranks in shoes and stockings. Lady Mary Tudor* is very near matrimony with our northern Ratliffe;† and Lady Mary Feilding‡ with Mr. Peirrpoint, Lord Kingston's brother.

* Lady Mary Tudor was the natural daughter of Charles the Second and of Mrs. Mary Davis. The marriage here spoken of took place, in consequence of which the father of Lady Mary's husband, Sir Francis Ratcliffe, was created Earl of Derwentwater, Viscount Ratcliffe and Langley, and Baron Tindale.

† Francis Ratcliffe, afterwards second Earl of Derwentwater. He died 1705. The issue of his marriage with Lady Mary Tudor, besides other children, was the unfortunate James Earl of Derwentwater, and the equally unfortunate Charles Ratcliffe; the former of whom was beheaded in 1716, and the latter in 1746, under circumstances of harshness, which render their executions in different ways a disgrace to the then Monarch and Minister of this country.

‡ Lady Mary Fielding was the only daughter of William third Earl of Denbigh. She married Evelyn Pierrepont, the individual mentioned in the text, who became in 1690, by the death of his brother, Earl of Kingston. He was also, in 1706, created Marquis of Dorchester, and in 1715, Duke of Kingston. He died 1726.

Here is Valentine Smith gives a lamentable account of the state of Castle-street and Ireland, so that it is no wonder you are so heartily inclined to leave it. I see by the state of your Revenue, the exportations in the Customs make a rise greater than the decay of the particular branches is; but, as you observe, this quarter's will be but a melancholy one in all probability. Sir Richard Reeves's journey is like to produce very little fruit. Sir Thomas,* the *quondam* Major-General, I hope, will be a better factor, and show an excellent ability to range an army in battle array. There was a Spanish galleon lost in 43, which the Duke of Albemarle,†

* Sir Thomas Chichley.

† Christopher Duke of Albemarle, who was entirely ruined in fortune, had been persuaded by certain speculators to join in partnership with them, for the purpose of weighing up a Spanish galleon sunk near the island of Jamaica. In order to facilitate their proceedings, he procured himself to be made Governor of that island, where he died in 1687. Tradition goes, that the Duchess, his widow, cheated the other partners of their share of the money recovered, and sailed with the whole in her possession to England. There she became mad, and determined to marry no one but the Grand Turk. Ralph

Lord Falkland,* &c. had a patent last September to search for, and they sent out one Fips,† who a few days ago returned with

Duke of Montagu, attracted by her riches, wooed and married her, disguised in a Turkish dress. He then shut her up; and built Montagu House, now the British Museum, with her money.

* Anthony (Cary) fourth Viscount Falkland, was one of the speculators. He was long a member of the English House of Commons, by which body he was, in 1694, committed to the Tower, for receiving and appropriating to his own use, 2000*l.* of public money.

† "*Fips*" means Sir William Phipps, an adventurer of considerable merit, who raised himself to eminence and riches from a low situation. His father was a gun-smith of Bristol, settled in New England, where Sir William was born. He was one of the youngest of a family of twenty-six children, all by the same mother; whereof twenty-one sons. He commenced life as a ship-builder; but afterwards hearing of a rich Spanish wreck near the Bahamas, he took to the sea-service and made a voyage thither, with however but little success. He then came to England, and by his representations induced other persons to join in the undertaking, and the Court to favour him so much, as to send him on the expedition in the capacity of Captain of a King's ship. He at length succeeded in weighing up a vast treasure. His finding it is thus described in the account of his life by Nathaniel Mather:—"At last they fell upon the room in the wreck, where the bullion

twenty-six tons of silver, and eighteen pounds weight of gold, and reported he left another vessel to take in the rest of the riches, which he could not bring away, which likewise arrived yesterday. Mountains are made of the mat-

had been stored up; and they so prospered in this new fishery, that in a little while they had, without the loss of any man's life, brought up thirty-two tons of silver. Besides that incredible treasure of plate, in various forms, thus fetched up from seven or eight fathoms under water, there were vast riches of gold, and pearls, and jewels, which they also lit upon; and, indeed, all that a Spanish frigate used to be enriched with. Captain Phips now coming to London, in the year 1687, with near three hundred thousand pounds sterling aboard him, did acquit himself with such exemplary honesty, that, partly by his fulfilling his assurances with his seamen, and partly by his exact and punctual care to have his employers defrauded of nothing that might conscientiously belong to them, he had less than sixteen thousand pounds sterling left to himself. The King, in consideration of the service done by him in bringing such a treasure into the nation, conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood." Sir William made another voyage to the wreck with considerable success, and it is upon this occasion that the Duchess of Albemarle is supposed to have cheated the rest of the speculators. King William made Phipps Governor of New England. He finally died in London on the 18th of February, 1695, after a life of the most romantic adventure and enterprise.

ter, but it is certainly a very considerable thing: the Duke of Albemarle hath a fourth part, which will be 35 or 40,000*l.*

The sentence of Mr. Hough is put off till the 22d, about Magdalen College election. Sir Edward Hales took possession to-day of the Lieutenancy of the Tower.

The 20th, H. Savile* goes to Paris for his health, and Sir John Lowther † for his pleasure, would take me along, and bear charges; but the Western Commissioner will not let me: which, besides, is not likely to be of that value to me, that I ought to forego my pleasure.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

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* Henry Savile was the younger brother of the first Marquis of Halifax, and son of Sir William Savile, the third Baronet of that name. He was long a member of Parliament, and was employed upon various occasions in the diplomatic line. He was also Vice Chamberlain to Charles the Second.

† Sir John Lowther, Baronet, created by William the Third Viscount Lonsdale, in 1696. He was a man of high reputa-

CX.

Reports of changes in Ireland, &c.

London, May 17th, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

FAME, whose character you are very well acquainted with, says, our Cabinet councils, especially on Sunday last, were taken up with the affairs of Ireland; and the languishing state of it, we say, is to be inspected by a new Governor: our Chancellor Wemm* some remove thence that way, others recompense my Lord Castlemaine's† services with it; and the

tion for integrity, and a true patriot. During the reigns of Charles and James, he steadily resisted the arbitrary measures of the Court. After the Revolution, he was made First Lord of the Treasury, and subsequently Privy Seal. He died July 10th, 1700.

* Meaning Judge Jefferies, who was Baron Jefferies of Wem in Shropshire.

† Roger (Palmer) Earl of Castlemaine, the husband of the Duchess of Cleveland, on which account solely he was created by Charles, in 1661, Earl of Castlemaine. He seems to have been as unlucky in his diplomatic as his connubial life; for Pope Innocent the Eleventh, to whom James sent

Duke of Beaufort* possibly would be content his brother Powis were seated there, that his fears might vanish of a removal from his Presidentship. Few extraordinary accidents happen of late. Father Warner, we say, grows up to be a match for Father Peters. You will shortly receive a letter from your brother Priest in the behalf of one Will Hendrey, some time heretofore an officer in your Excise, and desires a reinstalment in that employment. An honest, senseless Monk this morning importuned me to write to Mr. Culliford in his behalf, and I durst as well be hanged as not do it. Pray present my humble service to him, and tell him I ask his pardon for the importunity, and that I desire no more than what may tend to the King's service. He may be

him, laughed at him, and at his pompous embassy; and he was subsequently indicted for high treason, for having gone Ambassador to Rome.

* Henry (Somerset) first Duke of Beaufort. He was President of the Council in the Principality of Wales. Lord Powis had married Elizabeth Somerset, the Duke of Beaufort's second sister.

one of the best officers in the world, for aught I know; and then you will not let him sit idle (more than partaking of his share of the general quiet I hear your Government hath purchased for you): and if he is not worth the while, I shall be extremely well content he have his labour for his pains.

I doubt I must trespass upon you to pay 15*l.* for me shortly, or 20*l.*

Dear Sir,

Yours,

J. F.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland, Dublin.

CXI.

Reports respecting Lord Grey and Lord Eland.

21st May, 1687.

SIR,

WE have a thousand reports here relating to Ireland, that I cannot believe, about the revenue, the militia; and, among other mat-

ters, that we are to expect Lord Deputy suddenly on this side. Cambridge have elected another Vice-Chancellor instead of him that is suspended.* Magdalen of Oxon have no summons yet, but do expect it. What we have from abroad you will find in the inclosed. We are here in a state of solitariness and ignorance; the Court being at Windsor, where Earl of Sunderland is to be installed next Monday as Knight of the Garter. I had three days ago your favour of the 3d instant. It is said, my Lord Gray † is run mad. Lord Elan ‡ (though otherwise) cut off Molloy's hand with a case-knife.

Mr. Ellis.

* By the Ecclesiastical Commission, on account of the University's refusal to give a degree to a Catholic priest.

† I conclude, this means Ford Lord Grey, whose conduct was frequently that of a madman, though he never became what is usually called insane.

‡ Henry Lord Eland, eldest son of George (Savile) first Marquis of Halifax. He married a French lady, Esther, daughter and coheiress of Charles Marquis de la Tour-du-Pin Gouvernet, and died during the lifetime of his father. If we may judge by the lampoons and satires of the time, he was a wild and profligate young man.

CXII.

The way to be well at Court described.

Cleonger in Herefordshire,
May 27th, 1687.

HONEST FRIEND,

I TAKE the liberty to repeat your trouble of reading, before I have an account that my last came to your hands. I dare not be so unkind to you as to think it was not welcome. News to a man at my distance is but the offering, not a cold, but a stale dish of meat; and yet you must be content with such a treat. The King seems resolved to push for breaking the Test and penal laws against his persuasion, and to the Members of Parliament that have any employ this is the touchstone, for no man is thought worthy long to eat the King's bread that this will not go down with. Upon this score, several have laid down their commissions already, and more will every day. Sir John Morgan is already come home, and is succeeded by Major Purcell. Colonel Henry Cornewall is likely to follow the fate of his eldest

Captain, Sir Francis Edwards. Some that flatter the King, persuade him that he hath already a majority of the House of Commons; but the dispassionate part of mankind is of another judgment. I am a little cooler in my resolves of bringing over my family; for if I cannot reasonably hope to stay all the winter in Ireland, I shall hardly break up a whole family here, that, if I am called to Parliament, will not stay behind me; and a winter voyage and journey will agree but scurvily with the softer sex. I am told, I must pass the fire ordeal. I am provided for it, and resolved, as every honest man should be, to serve the King as far as with a good conscience I may. It was ever my opinion that an ill man can never make a good subject or a good friend, and I would not be thought false to two such eminent interests. I do therefore, upon the presumption of being honest,* and by you believed to be so, tell you that I am your faithful friend,

H. AUBREY.

* This letter is curious, as showing the painful state of

Present my service to your Board, and send me what account you have of Mr. Strong.

If my brother Godwyn ask you for 6*l*. to pay a bill drawn in my absence, let him have it, and I will faithfully repay you.

To Mr. John Ellis, at the Custom-house in Dublin.

CXIII.

Court at Windsor, &c.

London, May 28th, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I HAD yours last night of the 9th of this month, and thank your repayment of the same kind with mine. As for your desire, I will do my best in it, but cannot judge by yours whether you have writ to Sir Stephen* or not.

uncertainty in which so many then were between their conscience and their interest. Mr. Aubrey, by whom the letter is written, was a Member of the English Parliament, and one of the Commissioners of the Revenue in Ireland.

* Sir Stephen Fox.

I will ply Lord Ossory with warm cloaths in the matter. As for Sam, I cannot find his expedition is upon any other bottom than adjusting differences with Will; he is very angry with him, &c. Our Court is at Windsor, very thinly attended. I am glad your Custom-house rises, ours does but very ill. Bon-ripeaux is here from France, hard at work in the depth of state matters. The camp draws on the 8th following, and horse join them the 22d. I am going to Windsor.

Yours,

J. F.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland
Ireland. Dublin.

CXIV.

Proceedings in Parliament

Hereford, June 6th, 1687.

MY GOOD FRIEND,

I HAD your kind letter of the 24th of May, and return you my thanks, and by you

to all that are my friends, that have good thoughts of or kind wishes for me.

I am sorry to find that your revenue doth really decline: it was long since my fear it would do so upon the considerable changes made in Ireland. If I could contribute any thing to its support, I would effectually, not only for my credit, (for I shall have a share in the shame of that to which I contributed nothing, and which I could never avoid,) but for duty's sake.

As to my going to London, unless I am assured it is the King's desire I should wait upon him, I shall hardly take a journey of 200 miles to receive, for aught I know, a chiding for not making haste to my station and duty. If the King would have me come, he will no doubt signify such his pleasure to some friend of mine about him; and because I will not be wanting in duty, I have resolved to apply to the Duke of Beaufort to discover the King's inclination in this matter, and to prevent, if he can, my taking so tedious and uneasy a journey, as that must be to one in my painful circumstances when travelling.

As to what your Committee of Trade have done, I have different thoughts of it to what others have, and had I been at the debate should have offered reasons even upon the Irish account, and the King's interest, against your address; so that perhaps my absence is my happiness, for in that I have displeased none. As to the declining condition of your kingdom, it is too visible to be hid; and if this address take place, without considering the English interest, it will but little help the poverty of your kingdom, and, if my topics are true, add to its poverty. Besides, that law will not so easily be broken as the addressers think. The King might much more easily and reasonably have dispensed with the Plantation Act, and yet you see he cannot be persuaded to that, for there is a word in this act put in on purpose to prevent a dispensation as far as words can do, that is not in many others; and that is, the bringing in of Irish cattle is called a Nuisance, which word the learned in the law say is such a complication of mischiefs as the sovereign

power cannot dispense with, and the attempt to do it more desperate than the bar of Chester at low water in a storm. As to your denial of Mr. Bush, I am sorry for it, for I looked upon him as an able honest man; but the blending of officers was resolved on before I came away: it will be well if one side can keep a moiety. The news I had last post was, that the Parliament was to be dissolved, and a new one chose: a short time will show that; and a fortnight more will discover whether I return at all, and if so, whether double or single; for as yet I am unresolved: when I know, you shall, or any thing else that may assure you how really I am

Your faithful friend and servant,

H. Aubrey.

Do me right to brother and sister, and, as you call them, my large stock of friends.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue at the Custom-House in Dublin. Ireland.

CXV.

Arrival of Lord Charles Butler and Mr. La Lecke.—Affairs of Magdalen College, &c.

London, June 25th, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I HAD yours of the 14th, for which I thank you. It seems you will have a camp on your side: if it be like ours, it will be two-thirds baggage. I wish Thomas Hewetson may gain what he proposeth to himself; but he ought to be very sharp and wary that deals in that sort of traffic. My Lord Ormonde dined this day with Lord Rochester at New-Park, with many of his grandchildren. Lord Ossory in waiting this last week, returns some few hours hence. His brother Charles* and cou-

* Charles Butler, second son of Thomas Earl of Ossory. He was created Earl of Arran in Ireland, and Baron Butler of Weston in England, January 15th, 1693. He was also a Lord of the Bed-chamber to King William. During the reign of Queen Anne, he was made Master-General of the Ordnance, Governor of Dover Castle, and Deputy Warden of the Cinque Ports, all which offices he resigned at the accession of George the First. In 1715, he succeeded his bro-

sin La Leck* arrived from Holland last week. Our friends meddle little at Court, so that we can hope little from them. Lord Ormonde next week goes to Hampton Court, and shortly after to beside Poole,† in Dorsetshire. I have not lately been at Court, and the main of matters there seems to me the advancement of the Catholics. Mr. Hough's election was vacated, the Vice-President suspended, and Fairfax, a fellow; but I believe the Doctor, having possession

ther the second Duke of Ormonde, as Chancellor of the University of Oxford, and High Steward of Westminster. He died December 17th, 1758, at the age of eighty-eight.

* Henry d'Auverquerque, Lord of Beverswaert, *La Lecke*, Odyke, &c. one of the many foreigners created English Peers by King William. He was made in 1698, Earl of Grantham, Viscount Boston, and Baron Alford. His father was the distinguished General Auverquerque. His grandfather was Lewis d'Auverquerque, a natural son of Maurice Prince of Orange. The eldest daughter of Lewis d'Auverquerque had married Thomas Lord Ossory; consequently Charles Butler and Henry d'Auverquerque were first cousins. The latter afterwards married Lord Ossory's third daughter, Lady Henrietta Butler, by whom leaving no male issue, his titles died with him.

† Kingston Hall, the seat of Mr. Bankes, which was hired by the Duke of Ormonde, and where he died.

of the Presidentship, will keep it as long as he can: it is still a rough business, and will bear a hard pull. I have some prospect of seeing Ireland again, of which you shall hear more hereafter. Lady Mary Tudor going to be married to Mr. Ratcliffe; and Lady Mary Feilding to my Lord Kingston's brother, Mr. Peirpointe, heir-apparent to the Earldom.

Yours, J. F.

I have not seen Sam, or the Monk, a long time.

Duke of Albemarle is so busy with his silver and gold, which he refines in his own house, that I fear he will die by his furnaces.

60,000*l.* will be his gain, we think.

About the 7th following I begin the western expedition. We get 2*l.* a week here: have received 1200*l.* from the Treasury for the charge of the journey.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

CXVI.

Lord Cullen dying.—Changes and appointments.—The King determined to carry his points.

London, July 9th, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I HAD yours of the 28th and 30th past, for which I thank you. Chantrell's misfortune was great, I wish his recovery heartily. I begin the western expedition next week, and shall not return till the end of August, so I will not expect to hear from you till then, but my lodgings are fixed through the year. The Monk is attending Lord Cullen* here at Chelsey upon the point of death, but the Lord knows where Sam is. Lord Dunbarton is of the Bedchamber, in D. Somersett's† room. Cannon,

* Bryan (Cockaine) second Viscount Cullen.

† Charles (Seymour) sixth Duke of Somerset, commonly called the Proud Duke of Somerset, a man who made himself ridiculous through life by his arrogant vanity and pretensions. Upon the present occasion he had, however, behaved with propriety and firmness: having refused to introduce Ferdinand Dada, Archbishop of Amasia, the nuncio of Pope Innocent XI. to his audience at Windsor, on the 3d of July 1687. For this offence he was deprived of his Lordship of

his Lieutenant-colonel, hath the dragoon regiment. Sir Christopher Musgrave goes to live in the North. Sir H. Titchburne* succeeds him in the Ordnance Lieutenancy; and Mr. Howard,† I hope, in Carlisle government. Matters go on swimmingly; the King seems bent upon gaining his points in every respect. God guide him in a peaceable way! A Dutch war is, sure, our aim; they use us provokingly enough. We talk of raising more men, &c. but a foot is stretched to the length of the last. Lord Dunbarton would like to be Governor of Portsmouth, and Lord Dunbar‡ of Hull. In short, the ports will lie in the Royal

the Bed-chamber, and of the command of the third regiment of dragoons.

* Sir Henry Tichborne, the third baronet of that family, descended from an ancient Catholic family in Hampshire. He fought bravely on the royal side during the civil wars, for which his estate was sequestered till the Restoration. He died in 1689.

† This was probably one of the younger brothers of the first Lord Carlisle.

‡ Robert (Constable) third Viscount Dunbar. He died in 1714.

hands, and all considerable places of trust every where.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His Majesty's Revenue in Ireland.
Ireland. Dublin.

CXVII.

Journey to Spa.

Whitehall, July 12th, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I RECEIVED yours which was sent by Sam. Bridges, but, having been out of town most part of the time, I have not met with him since to receive that account which you recommended to me; and though I have neither news or any thing else to acquaint you with, yet being to leave England speedily, I thought that was some news which you ought to know. My Lord Rochester, Jemmy Kendall, and myself, begin our journey, God willing, for the Spa in Germany, about Wednesday or Thursday sevennight next: we make no stay any where,

it being late in the year, but land at Ostend, and so go through Brussels straight thither. I have no more, only to recommend my friends Winteringham and Carne to your care. I suppose Mr. Winteringham knows Sir Christopher Musgrave is out of his place of Lieutenant of the Ordnance, and that he is succeeded by Sir Harry Tichburne.

I am, dear Sir,
Your most affectionate
and faithful friend to serve you,
FRANCIS GWYN.

CXVIII.

Disturbances near London, &c.—Lines addressed to the Author of the Hind and Panther.

London, July 21st, 1687.
For Mr. William Bucknor.

SIR,

THE Welsh camp* has made such a noise, that the artillery at Hounslow is hardly

* I cannot find, in the histories of the time which I have been able to consult, any account of these disturbances, or of the occasion of them.

heard of in town, and is no more than a cracker to a mortar piece. This formidable rabble make their rendezvous in the night with various skirmishes and sallies upon the warlike train-bands, who stand continually at their arms squirting and popping at the boys with powder, which they return with their artillery of brick-bats and pebbles. The articles, which they drop about the fields in writing, are four.

1. To have the cow-keeper (who is now in Newgate) turned out amongst them into the fields.

2. To have Major Parry (who was his bail) hanged.

3. To have liberty to pull down the house.

4. To have their fellow prentices released out of prison.

This has so taken up our time and discourse, that there is hardly any mention of Royal encampment, though there are wonderful doings there about the taking of Buda, which began this day, and is to continue till Wednesday next, with various reinforcements and assaults.

The Duke of Somerset, after his deserting the Court, is retired into the country.

It was reported the Lord Feversham was out on his absence from the camp, but the wakeful General is upon another expedition, being in close siege with the Duke of Newcastle's daughter, whose fortress, they say, is in a few days to be surrendered.*

This match has reconciled the Duke and Duchess,† who were parted on account of the Duke of Berwick proposed by the King: the mother having excepted against him as a bastard, the daughter as a Papist. Nor is she so fond of the General, for as bad a reason, being worn out with years and the fatigues of war; but being overruled by her parents, she submits upon articles that he be made a Duke.

The Duke of Grafton, after a dangerous storm, is arrived at the Brill, where meet-

* This marriage never took place.

† The Duchess of Newcastle, wife of Henry (Cavendish) second Duke of Newcastle, was Frances daughter of William Pierrepont, Esq.

ing the Queen of Portugal, he conveys her to Lisbon.

The Duke of Albemarle goes next week to Jamaica, having 25,000 pounds more paid him for the King, in consideration of his equipage, service in the West, and other arrears.

ON THE AUTHOR

OF

"THE HIND AND PANTHER."*

Predestination how can he deny
Whose nimble Hind is "fated not to die?"
Yet how can she who this receives from fate
Of her own strength receive immortal state?
But in that faith it is not strange to see
Choice transubstantiated to decree;
Our Poet's choice is mere necessity. . . .

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* Dryden had just published his controversial poem bearing this title, in favour of the Roman Catholic religion; which religion he had lately himself embraced. This work naturally called forth many answers and satires against it, of which the indifferent lines in the text are one. The best answer to it was the ludicrous one written by Prior and Montagu (afterwards Lord Halifax) in conjunction, and called "The Hind and Panther transversed, in the History of the Country and City Mouse."

His vocal wants admonish him to range,
And 'twere great pity he should sta've and change.
His praise of Nol * obtain'd no lasting boon,
Because his hated memory stunk so soon.
Now sure he cannot fail of a supply
From a rich mother? fated ne'er to die.
But how can he receive it from the Cowls,
Who likens their beloved Nuns to owls?
Nor can the Sovereign hand reward his tongue,
Who counts it his prerogative to wrong.

The lawyers' maxims he 's allow'd to blame,
" Whose old possession stands till th' elder quits his claim,"
Which since the elder is not pleased to quit,
That this should yield unto its fate 'tis fit,
Like the crazed ruins of his monumental wit,
Whose darkness in the abyss of light is set,
Though glory blazes round, 'tis darkness yet.

ON THE SAME.

To put religion into doggrel rhyme,
May well become the *Trent-ists* of our time;
For being naked found in holy writ,
They fly for refuge to her fig-leaved wit.

To Mr. William Smith,
at the Custom House in Dublin.

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* This alludes to Dryden's Heroic Stanzas on the death of the Protector.

CXIX.

Queen of Portugal's voyage.—Riots continue.—Arrival of the Duchess of Bouillon.

23d July, 1687.

LETTERS from Holland of the 25th say the Queen of Portugal was arrived the day before in the Maes, between Dort and Rotterdam; and that she was to embark the next day aboard his Majesty's squadron, under the command of the Duke of Grafton. We do not hear yet they have passed through the Channel. When the Duke of Grafton hath done his business at Lisbon, he is to pass into the Streights, and to return their visit to the Algerines, and no doubt will demand satisfaction for such of the King's subjects as they have kidnapped away from hence.

The yachts which attend the Queen till she gets on board the Duke of Grafton, are to sail from Holland to the Elbe, to wait for his Royal Highness the Prince of Denmark's coming to Gluckstadt. We hear of no mischief

that the Algerines have lately done in these seas, and most people do conclude they have made the best of their way homewards, being apprehensive lest the Dutch Vice-Admiral and his ships should get before them into the Streights' mouth, and there intercept their entering into the Mediterranean.

The Marquis d'Albyville hath had the same answer to his memorial about Bantam, as Mr. Skelton had this time twelvemonth; viz. that they, the States General, were far from designing that their subjects should do any injury to the English, and that they were ready to treat about those differences now depending concerning Bantam, with him the Marquis, if he were authorized so to do; since the determination of those differences is now devolved upon his Majesty and the States General.

Their Majesties and her Royal Highness the Princess are in very good health at Windsor; some say the Queen intends to take a turn unto the Bath, but of this we have no certainty as yet.

Our mutineers in Red Lion Fields were again got together last Sunday, to a considerable number: their design was supposed to be to rescue about a dozen of their fellows, who were in New Prison, but are since removed to Newgate. All the mischief they did was to knock off his horse one of the Militia officers, which has much irritated the Trained Bands, who threaten, if they appear again, not to be so very sparing of their powder and shot.

Besides the Comte de Roy and his family, who came hither from Denmark, here is arrived the Duchess de Bouillon,* sister to the Duchess of Mazarin; the reason the Comte de Roy is

* Mary Anne Mancini, fifth niece of the Cardinal Mazarin, married to the Duke de Bouillon. Brienne says of her, "Elle a beaucoup d'esprit, mais point de jugement."—Of the Duchess of Mazarin, her elder sister, he says with great justice and truth, "Elle est une folle achevée: elle n'a jamais aimé son mari, aussi n'est-il guère aimable; et maintenant elle court le monde, la plupart du temps, vêtue en homme." Her adventures and eccentricities, as well as those of her mad husband, are related in detail in many of the memoirs of the time, and especially in those which bear her own name.

made an Irish Baron * was, that his lady might with the less difficulty, as is supposed, wait of the Queen's Majesty, and have the honour to be *saluted* by her, which otherwise she could not have pretended to.

Mr. Ellis.

CXX.

Continued riots.—Duke of Albemarle and Sir William Phipps's expedition to Jamaica.—Foreign news.—Ecclesiastical Commission, &c.

Whitehall, 30th July, 1687.

The 24th being a Sunday, a day of liberty for the younger sort, they took their course again in the evening towards the fields, and rendezvoused near the cow-keeper's house, where a company of the Trained Bands was placed as a guard. There they first began to whoop and halloa and offer several provocations, and soon after made use of the wheelbarrows

* I cannot find any trace of this creation, nor do I believe it ever took place.

which were at a brick-kiln at a little distance, to place the bricks near the Trained Bands, and at last they made use of that artillery against them. This being past bearing with, they fired upon them, but so cautiously, as rather to affright than hurt them; there being none but a young woman, who was walking thereabout, killed with a random shot through the body. The noise of this, and cutting some few of them, (by which they found them in earnest) dispersed the rabble, and about six or seven of them only taken prisoners, and sent to gaol. It is to be hoped they will take warning, and indeed it is to be wondered that they held up the humour so long; since, if they have any just cause, they may have satisfaction of the cow-keeper, who was at the beginning upon the first complaint sent to Newgate, to answer what would be legally objected against him.

By the letters of the 15th, the Hamburghers are not yet rid of jealousy of the Danish men-of-war abroad, whose errand they look upon

as what may be rather to their ships than to the Algerines.

His Majesty hath been pleased to grant new commissions to the Captains of his royal regiment of Guards, commanded by the Duke of Grafton, by which every Captain of the said regiment is made Lieutenant-colonel and Captain.

Sir John Narborough* is going away in three or four days with the Duke of Albemarle, and as a guard with Sir Phips,† in quest of the remainder of the treasure, not without a fair prospect of success; though it is said that since he came into the river, two ships have slipped out upon the same errand, and that when he came thence, he left two Barmudas ships thereabouts on that account.

* Sir John Narborough, Knight, was an Admiral of some reputation during the reigns of Charles and James the Second. He was also one of the Commissioners of the Navy. His son was created a Baronet by James in 1688, immediately after his father's death.

† Sir William Phipps.

The Lord Mayor of London* still finds out whom to drink to that will fine for the benefit of the Orphans; and the Orphans, in a dutiful acknowledgment of the great grace and favour of his Majesty in granting that liberty to the Lord Mayor for their relief, are upon an address of their most humble and hearty thanks for this and all other his Majesty's bounties to them, and desiring that he would be pleased to continue his protection of them.

The Plymouth letters dated 24th, tell us that on the 23d, in the evening, the Duke of Grafton, with five other of his Majesty's frigates, two yachts, and four other ships, came in thither, where they were saluted with the great guns from the citadel, bells ringing. They say that they went by on Friday as far as the Lizard, but were forced back with contrary wind. The Queen of Portugal did not come ashore, but went off again on the 24th.

* The Lord Mayor was in the habit of drinking to, that is to say, nominating persons as Sheriffs, who he knew would not serve, and whose fines went in consequence to the Orphans' Fund.

The Court is going in mourning for the death of the Duchess of Modena;* and it is said that it will be in the same manner, and of as long continuance, as that in the time of his late Majesty, for the death of the Queen of Portugal,† mother to the Queen Dowager.

The last letters from Denmark,‡ dated 16th,

* Laura Martinozzi, niece of Cardinal Mazarin, married May 27th, 1655, to Alphonso the Fourth, Duke of Modena. She was mother by him of Francis the Second, Duke of Modena, and of Mary Beatrix, the second wife of James the Second. She died at Rome the 19th of July, 1687, leaving behind her a well-earned reputation for firmness, wisdom, and virtue.

† Louisa de Gusman, sister of the Duke of Medina Sidonia, and wife of John the Fourth, King of Portugal. She was a woman of great merit, and contributed mainly by her counsels and firmness, to enable her husband to recover the throne of his ancestors, which had been usurped by the Kings of Spain. She died 27th February, 1666. She was the mother of Catherine of Braganza, the wife of Charles the Second, who is the person alluded to in this passage as "The Queen Dowager."

‡ Mary Elizabeth, daughter of William Philip Elector Palatine, married to Peter the Second, King of Portugal, was living at this time with her aunt Charlotte Amelia, of Hesse Cassel, the wife of Christian the Fifth, King of Denmark. The rejoicings which were now taking place at Copenhagen,

told us that the jollity of the Court continued as high as ever, but that they began to talk of returning for England, but that the yachts which went for Holland to carry the Queen of Portugal aboard the ships, and which were appointed for their transportation, were not then come to Gluckstadt. On the 10th, they were to see the fleet, where they were entertained on purpose, and diverted with a trial of skill among the seamen for prizes. On the 11th experiment was made of some bombs thrown from aboard a ship. On the 12th Count Goldenleu treated; on the 13th they went to Admiral Beilk's wedding; on the 14th they had a review of about 10 m. foot; and on the 15th they hunted with the King, and were treated at one of his country houses: which was the diary of all their entertainments.

The Duke of Lorraine* and the Elector of

were in honour of her nuptials with the Portuguese Monarch, which had been celebrated by proxy on the 2d of July, 1687.

* The Duke of Lorraine obtained a complete and glorious victory over the Turks at the bridge of Esseck, on the 2d of August, 1687.

Bavaria's* forces being past the bridge without any resistance, and joined, there is no doubt made of taking Esseck. The first attack, it is said, will be made on the Castle, which cannot hold out long, being quite naked on the side of the river, having not so much as a curtain to resist a battery, which may be easily planted over against it, and that done, there is nothing in prospect that may stop the progress of their victory as far as Belgrade, if not farther.

A master of a small vessel of Poole, arrived from St. Christopher's in eight weeks, reports there are sixteen sail of Spanish ships, from

* Maximilian Emmanuel, Elector of Bavaria, succeeded his father Ferdinand-Maria in that dignity in 1679. He died in 1726. His life was a military one; the former part of it spent in fighting on the side of the Emperor against the Turks, the middle part on that of the French against the English and Imperialists, and his latter years against the Ottoman power. He was a prince of bravery and merit, and the laurels he obtained at the storming of the town of Belgrade in 1688, at the Battle of Donawert in 1703, and at the Battle of Belgrade in 1717, are to be set against the part he had in the defeats of Blenheim, Ramilies, &c. where the star of the great Duke of Marlborough outshone that of the Elector and his French allies.

sixteen to thirty-six guns each, who are now cruizing about the Charibb Islands and those parts, where they have lately suffered from the Buccaneers.

The Hopewell, of and from New York, arrived at Cowes on the 6th, gives advice that betwixt Nan-Tucket * and Long Island, about twenty leagues off the shore, came up with him a ship of about seventy tons, twelve guns, and four petararoes, a pirate, which had a tree painted in her stern, with the King's arms and town of Youghall in her tafflet, forty-five men on board, who by their speech seemed North countrymen. Upon coming aboard, they immediately put one of the men to the strapado, in hope to get some considerable confession from him, but, failing, of that purpose, fell to rummaging, and from master and men took 200 pieces of eight, a new foresail, some provision, and a boat.

On the 29th, the Lords Commissioners for

* An island of the United States belonging to the Province of Massachusetts.

putting the Ecclesiastic laws in execution, sat at Whitehall, when, according to their order of the 1st instant, the Fellows of St. Mary Magdalen's College, Oxford, produced their witnesses to prove such matter as they had alleged to render him* unfit for the office of President. There was counsel on both sides, and the witnesses gave in their evidence fully against Mr. Farmer, and others heard on his behalf; after which they withdrew, and were ordered to appear again that day sevennight in the forenoon.

It is said that this day the fort† will be taken, and soon after that the regiments will draw off; so that before the 10th of the next, there will be a perfect decampment; and that it is concluded that her Majesty go to the Bath, and that his Majesty, during her residence there, will divertise himself in viewing Portsmouth, &c.

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* Farmer, whom the King had commanded them to elect President of the College.

† This alludes to the sham-fights, which were at this time going on among the troops encamped on Hounslow Heath.

The Hague letters, dated 5th, tell us the Prince of Orange was every hour expected there, and that the Envoy of Muscovy was to have his audience that morning, but some difficulty arising about his daily allowance † *

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Advices from the camp near Walpo, July 18th, state, that the Elector of Bavaria had joined the Duke of Lorraine, and that the army was within an hour's march of the enemy, who are posted with Esseck in the rear, the right wing toward the Drave, and the left toward a wood, which lies betwixt both the armies; but that they are not so well intrenched as not to be attacked, which was the point resolved on before the letter came away.

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† This part of the letter is illegible from damp, and the faintness of the ink.

CXXI.

The Queen going to Bath.—The King's progress.

Whitehall, 30th July, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

DR. WYNNE went out of town yesterday for a week or a fortnight, during which time you must be contented patiently to receive my dull epistles. I have been very glad to hear, by your letters to him from time to time, of the enjoyment of your health, wherein I hope and wish you may long continue.

The Queen is by the advice of the physicians to go to the Bath about the 12th of next month; his Majesty goes some days before a short progress to Portsmouth, Salop, and Gloucestershire, and designs to be at the Bath much about the time of the Queen's coming there, but how long his Majesty will tarry there is not yet known.

By what we may conjecture, from the proofs brought by the fellows of Magdalen's College against Farmer, and the dislike the Lords

showed to his morals, he is not like to be supported, but the King will think fit to name some other person for that preferment. For other news I must refer you to Esquire Muddiman, and remain,

Sir,

Your most obliged humble servant,

SAMUEL DE PAZ.

I have opened your last letter to Mr. Wynne, and took care of the inclosed.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the
Lords Commissioners for managing
His Majesty's Revenue of Ireland.
Middleton. At Dublin.

CXXII.

Changes in the Magistracy of the City, &c.

Whitehall, 6th Aug. 1687.

DEAR SIR,

MUDDIMAN tells you which of our six Aldermen are removed: they are to be succeeded, as we are told, by Sir John Shorter, Sir

Robert Clayton, Sir Patience Ward, Sir John Laurence, Mr. Papillon, and Mr. Pilkington; and the first to be the next Lord Mayor.* Mr. Morden was the last person drunk to by my Lord Mayor, and had sealed and delivered his bonds, but upon the King's appointing Mr.

* "The King now resolved to change the Magistracy in most of the cities of England. He began with London. He not only changed the Court of Aldermen, but the government of many of the Companies of the City: for great powers had been reserved in the new charters that had been given, for the King to put in and to put out at pleasure."—"All this was executed with great severity and contempt. Those who had stood up for the King during the debates about the exclusion, were now turned out with disgrace: and those who had appeared most violently against him were put in the magistracy, who took liberties now in their turn to insult their neighbours. All this turned upon the King, who was so given up to the humours of his priests, that he sacrificed both his honour and gratitude as they dictated. The new men, who were brought in, saw this too visibly to be much wrought on by it."—*Burnet.*

"The new men" were Dissenters, and were put in by the King, in order to favour his views of getting rid of the Test, &c. This, however, they would not do, which, adds Burnet, "the King took very ill. And upon it he said, he saw the Dissenters were an ill-natured sort of people, that could not be gained."

Firebrace and Mr. Parsons to serve Sheriffs next, his bonds were redelivered to him. I send you herewith the route of the King's progress.

We hear not any thing from the Imperial army, which makes us fear some ill success, the Germans being forward enough to send expresses upon any good occasion.

I am, dear Sir,

Ever Yours.

At Dublin.*

CXXIII.

His Majesty's Progress from Windsor.†

16th August, 1687.

Aug. 16 Portsmouth; stays there 17.

18 Bath; stays there 19, 20, 21.

* The Address torn off in the Original except these two words.

† "When this was over," (the reception of the Pope's Nuncio) "the King set out for his progress, and went from Salisbury all round as far as to Chester. In the places through which the King passed, he saw a visible coldness

22 Gloucester.
23 Worcester.
24 Ludlow.
25 Shrewsbury.
26 Whitchurch.
27 Chester; stays there 28, 29.
30 Newport.
31 Litchfield.
Sept. 1 Coventry.
2 Banbury.
3 Oxford; stays there the 4th.
5 Cirencester.
6 Bath.

both in the nobility and gentry, which was not easily borne by a man of his temper. In many places they pretended occasions to go out of their countries. Some stayed at home; and those who waited on the King, seemed to do it rather out of duty and respect, than with any cordial affection. The King on his part was very obliging to all that came near him, and most particularly to the Dissenters, and to those who had passed long under the notion of Commonwealth's men."—Burnet.

CXXIV.

Changes in the Lieutenancies of Counties.—Oates in the pillory.

Whitehall, 13th August, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

THE Earl of Huntingdon * is made Lord Lieutenant of Lestershire, in the room of the Earl of Rutland ;† the Lord Waldgrave, Lord Lieutenant of Sommersettshire, in the room of the Duke of Somerset ; the Lord Preston, Lord Lieutenant of Cumberland, in the room of the Earl of Thanet ;‡ and Westmorland ; the Lord Chancellor,§ Lord Lieutenant of Salop, in the

* Theophilus (Hastings) seventh Earl of Huntingdon. James also made him Lord Lieutenant of the counties of Huntingdon and Derby, Chief Justice in Eyre, and Captain of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners. All which offices he lost at the Revolution.

† John (Manners) ninth Earl of Rutland, created Duke of Rutland and Marquis of Granby by Queen Anne, in 1703. He died January 10th, 1711.

‡ Thomas (Tufton) sixth Earl of Thanet. He was the fourth son of Nicholas first Earl of Thanet, and had succeeded his three elder brothers, and his nephew, the only son of John the second Earl. He died July 30th, 1729.

§ Lord Jefferies.

room of my Lord Newport;* the Lord Mollineux † Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, in the room of the Earl of Derby;‡ and the Lord Aston § Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire, in the room of the Earl of Shrewsbury.||

* Francis second Lord Newport, created Viscount Newport of Bradford in 1675, and Earl of Bradford in 1694. He died in 1708.

† Caryll (Molyneux) third Viscount Molyneux. He died Feb. 2d, 1699, aged 77.

‡ William Richard George (Stanley) ninth Earl of Derby. King William restored to him the Lord Lieutenancy of Lancashire, and also made him Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire; to which Queen Anne added the Lieutenancies of the Isle of Anglesey and of the counties of Carnarvon, Flint, Merioneth, and Montgomery.

§ Walter third Lord Aston of Forfar in Scotland. Most of the noblemen who were thus preferred were Roman Catholics.

|| Charles (Talbot) twelfth Earl of Shrewsbury, created Duke of Shrewsbury in April 1694. He was also Secretary of State during a considerable part of the reign of King William; Lord Chamberlain, and Lord Lieutenant of Ireland at different times during that of Anne; and Groom of the Stole and Lord Chamberlain to George the First. He died February 1st, 1718. He appears to have been a man of abilities, and of honour and probity, but very unsteady in his political attachments. He was bred a Roman Catholic, but

Our new City aldermen are, Shorter, Firebrace, Parsons, Kiffin, Edwin, and Mosson: the first, next Lord Mayor, and the next two, Sheriffs for the ensuing year.

Oates showed in the pillory last Wednesday and Friday, but the mob was not at all uncivil to him.

The King was here last Thursday, to take leave of Queen Dowager.

The Dutch Gazette tells you all the news we have from the Imperial army.

There is a talk here as if your Lord Deputy were ordered to meet the King at Chester.

I am,

Dear Sir,

Ever yours.

No address to this letter.

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abjured that religion towards the end of the reign of Charles the Second, in consequence, as it is said, of the arguments of the celebrated Tillotson.

Pope's encomiastic lines upon him contain as much praise as could well be comprized in so few words:

"Oft, in the clear still mirror of retreat,
I studied Shrewsbury, the wise and great."

CXXV.

German news, &c.

I am to give you many thanks for the favour of yours of the 23d, 27th, and 30th past, which last came yesterday. I have sent forward Mr. Commissioner Cullyford's letters, and would be glad to receive any other more considerable commands from him; and have caused that from Colonel Jeffreys, and those to Mr. Maddox, to be safely delivered.

I shall be glad that both Mr. Bulkeleys have the effect of the Lord Deputy's promise to them in some good employments.

We have had scurvy stories here of late about some amours of your Court, which I am apt to think are not true in all their circumstances.

The news here is but little. Our great expectations are from Hungary. The last letters of the $\frac{\text{26th}}{\text{6 July,}}$ from Vienna say, that Lorrain and Bavaria were in full march towards the Lower Hungary: that both have a like design, the first to ruin the bridge of Esseck, the last

that near Peter-waradin, to exclude the Turks, the better to secure the conquest of Alba Regalis and Canischa by the one, and of Agria by the other. The French squadron in our Channel is said to come to look after the Algerines, who have insulted some Frenchmen: if they escape the French, the Dutch hope to have them ere they enter the Streights' mouth.

(No address to this letter.)

CXXVI.

A Parliament to be called.—The King's intentions.

Cleonger in Herefordshire, Aug. 24th, 1687.

SIR,

I RETURNED yesterday from waiting on the King at Gloucester, where I kissed his hand and obtained leave to stay to confirm my returning health till after Michaelmas. There is no doubt but there will be a Parliament called about November; and in order to have men qualified to gratify the King in the great design he labours of repealing the Act for the

Tests and all penal laws, know assuredly, that there will be no Justice of Peace, Deputy Lieutenant, or (I believe) Lord Lieutenant, or officer of advantage or trust, that shall hold his place without he give his assurance to act for the perfecting of this great work; and all Corporations must expect the same trial, and this they are told already. Do me right to my friends, and present my humble service to my brethren.

I am,

Unfeignedly yours,

H. A.

Let me hear from you.

(No address to this letter.)

CXXVII.

German news.—Treasure from the Spanish Wrecks.

Whitehall, 27th August, 1687.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE been forced to make a little excursion, and to be beholding to my friend Mr. de Paz, for sending you what occurred.

The great news from Hungary is still confirmed from all hands, so that I think it is beyond all doubt, and the number of the Turks destroyed between both elements, (in the field and in the Drave) are said to be 16 or 18^{m}. Though my Lord Chamberlain* be disgraced, yet it is not known whether he must out; Lord Dover acts as Chamberlain in the King's progress. Earl Tyrconnel arrived at Chester on Monday last, and met the King at Salop. Another ship is said to have touched at the Downs, with 300^{m} pounds fished out of the Spanish wreck, but she is not come into the river, but supposed to have sailed away for Holland or Hamburgh, which is bad news for us in the Mint. If it be true that there be such a ship, and that she touched at the Isle of Wight (coming from Bermudas), and that she is sailed farther, she hath broken the Act of Navigation, and robbed the King of his share in the treasure she may have on board.

* John (Sheffield) Earl of Mulgrave, afterwards Duke of Buckinghamshire.

With service to Mr. Melvill, Mr. Bonnell, and our other friends,

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient,

O. WYNNE.

(No address on this Letter.)

CXXVIII.

Princess of Denmark miscarries.—The Dutch demand satisfaction.

London, April 17th, 1688.

DEAR SIR,

THOUGH I am not so happy as to have heard of your arrival at Dublin* under your own hand, yet I have it elsewhere, which is sufficient warrant to me to attack you in this way. The Princess has been much indisposed of late: her doctors differed in opinion, Lower

* It would appear from this sentence, that John Ellis was just returned to Dublin. He had probably been in England. This would naturally have occasioned the considerable interval in the correspondence which is observable between the date of this letter, and that of the one which precedes it.

and Scarborough;* the first, for a steel diet, the latter positively against it; but Lower's prescription prevailed, and it happened yesterday as the other foretold—she miscarried of the embrio she was pregnant with; but for two nights before she seemed in danger of death. As soon as she can, she goes to the Bath. The Dutch have demanded satisfaction for a pamphlet lately licensed by my Lord Sunderland, and a rupture is expected upon it. It is apprehended the French have laid a trick, and are in with *them*. Sir John Temple † goes hence to-

* Sir Charles Scarborough, an eminent mathematician and physician. He was knighted by Charles the Second, who also appointed him his principal physician. James the Second and William both continued him in the same office. He died aged eighty, in 1696.

† Sir John Temple, son of Sir John Temple, Master of the Rolls in Ireland, and younger brother of the justly celebrated Sir William Temple. He filled at different periods of his life the offices of Solicitor-General and Attorney-General of Ireland, Speaker of the House of Commons of that kingdom, and one of the Commissioners for the settlement of the same. King James's Irish Parliament after the Revolution attainted Sir John, and confiscated his estate, which he had acquired by grants, &c. from the Crown, and which is said to have

wards you next week: his daughter Colvil* marries to-morrow to Sir Basil Dixwell.

Yours,

J. F.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary of His
Majesty's Revenue in Ireland,
Ireland. at Dublin.

CXXIX.

The Queen to lie in at St. James's.—Death of the Elector of Cologne.

2d June, 1688.

SIR,

As the Queen Dowager, after all, is content to stay and end her days in England,

amounted to a yearly rental of 1700*l*. It was restored to him by King William, who also offered him some of the highest situations in the law. These he declined, and retiring to his villa at East Sheen, in Surrey, he died there March 10th, 1704, at the age of seventy-one.

* Dorothy Temple, second daughter of Sir John Temple. She married first Francis, son and heir of Sir Robert Colvil, of Mount Colvil, in the county of Antrim, Knight, and secondly Sir Basil Dixwell, Bart. of Broom-House, in Kent.

so the Queen Regent* hath laid aside the thoughts of going to Windsor, and will lie in at St. James's.† The Elector of Cologne ‡ is dead, and Cardinal Furstemberg § is resolved to keep

* Meaning the reigning Queen.

† Burnet says, "Those about the Queen did suddenly change her reckoning, and began it from the King's being with her at Bath. This came on so quick that, though the Queen had set the fourteenth of June for her going to Windsor, where she intended to lie in, and all the preparations for the birth and for the child were ordered to be made ready by the end of June, yet now a resolution was taken for the Queen's lying in at St. James's, and directions were given to have all things quickly ready."—From this, and other little and trivial circumstances attending the Queen's delivery, Burnet proceeds to argue that the Prince of Wales was a supposititious child. No one now doubts the reality and legitimacy of his birth, and it is only one proof more of the degree to which party violence can blind the eyes and understandings of able and honest men, that such an historian as Burnet should gravely, and with great apparent sincerity, support this view of the question.

‡ Maximilian Henry of Bavaria, Elector of Cologne, son of Albert the Sixth, Duke of Bavaria, succeeded his uncle Ferdinand in the Electorate of Cologne and the Bishopric of Liege in 1650.

§ William Egon, Prince of Furstemberg, had devoted himself to the interests of Lewis the Fourteenth, who procured his election in 1681 to the Bishopric of Strasburgh, and in 1686 obtained for him a Cardinal's hat. By the same in-

possession. I wish you would send me an extract of what hath been done and ordered in the matter of the Lambskins of Chester: they have paid custom, it seems, about 70*l.*, and the Lords of the Treasury promise my Lord Powys it shall be reimbursed, *if they can make it out the lambskins were bought before they were affected with the knowledge of your Commissioners' order to the contrary, and for the payment of customs for their wool.*

Mr. Ellis.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary for
the Revenue of Ireland,
at Dublin.

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fluence he was elected, in the month of January 1688, coadjutor of the Archbishoprick of Cologne; but the Pope, Innocent the Eleventh, refused to issue the bulls of confirmation. Upon the death of the Elector, Lewis tried all means, persuasion, contrivance, intimidation, to make the Cardinal Furstemberg his successor; but the Imperial party also brought forward a candidate, Joseph Clement of Bavaria, who, by the Pope's final decision, was at length declared the possessor of that dignity. Frequent mention is made in the course of the succeeding letters of this business, which occupied much time, and engrossed, while it was going on, the attention of Europe.

CXXX.

Increase of trade, &c.

London, June 7th, 1688.

SIR,

I HAVE received yours of the 12th past, for which I give you many thanks, and for the good news you tell me of the increase of the Customs this last Lady-day quarter; and that which makes it yet more comfortable is, that the increase proceeds from the importations, and not from the exports, which is a clear sign that the produce of former exports is returned in trade of foreign commodities, except it be from the accident of the arrival of some tobacco ships from the Plantations, which some people give out; and indeed it does seem a little odd, that trade should increase, and the people continue to come away, as most certainly they do. But let it be what it will, as long as the revenue holds up, no matter whence it proceeds.

Indeed I wonder the Government does not make the Army more easy to the country,

which would be no hard matter to do, if those who have the power had a mind to it: if soldiers must quarter on private traders, it will be impossible to keep that sort of people in the kingdom. I perceive Mr. Sheridan's affair was not near over when your letter was written: one cannot help having the curiosity to know how that matter ends; but let it go which way it will, certainly my Lord Deputy and he can never live easily together. I have nothing farther to add at present, but to assure you that I am, Sir,

Your very affectionate servant,

CLARENDON.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of the Revenue, at Dublin.

CXXXI.

Birth and Household of the Prince of Wales.—Affair of Cologne.—Bishops in the Tower, &c.

Whitehall, June 16th, 1688.

THE last sessions at the Old Bailey, two soldiers were condemned for running away from

their colours: one of them was executed, according to sentence, upon Hounslow Heath, at the place appointed for the camp: the other was carried to Tower Hill for execution, but, just when he was to be turned off the ladder, he had his Majesty's pardon.

The Gazette hath given the account of her Majesty's happy delivery of a Prince on the 10th;* and that Sunday next is a day appointed for thanksgiving here, and Sunday fortnight throughout the kingdom; to which I shall only add, that there are already some necessary officers appointed for the Prince, of whom the chief, and who were sworn on the 10th, are the Marchioness of Powys,† Governess,

* "In the midst of this ferment, this day (June 10th,) being Trinity Sunday, about four minutes before ten in the morning, the Queen was delivered of a Prince, to the great joy of the Court. But, as important as this event might seem to be, little notice may be said to have been taken of it. The imprisonment of the Bishops was now uppermost in the minds of most of the people." &c.—*Reresby's Memoirs.*

† Elizabeth Somerset, daughter of Edward Marquis of Worcester.

and the Lady Strickland,* relict of Sir Thomas Strickland, under-governess.

On the 10th, as appears by the list, were riding in the Downs, twenty of his Majesty's men-of-war, of which the Bristol, Admiral.

It is writ from Holland, dated 19th, that the Count d'Avaux having given the States to know by a memorial, that he would that the Electorate of Cologne might be at an entire liberty to choose an Archbishop; and that if any of the neighbouring States would move any troops to intimidate the Chapter, his Majesty would send succours necessary to support them; they referred to the Deputies of the States for foreign affairs, who made report that it was fit to give answer, that on their parts they would seek all means to preserve the peace, and meant not in the least to intermeddle with the choice of the Elector of Cologne now, as they had not

* Elizabeth, daughter and coheiress of Sir Francis Pile, of Compton Beauchamp, in Berks, Bart. married to Sir Thomas Strickland, Bart.

before in the election of the Cardinal of Furstemburgh to the coadjutorship; for which they received the States' thanks. They say that the Grand Chapter had appointed July 19th for the choice of a new Elector, and that on the same day a new Bishop would be chosen at Munster; and that in the mean time the Cardinal of Furstemburgh was administrand, but guided by the order of the Chapter.

The Bishops* have their liberty of the Tower,

* The account of the arrest of the seven Bishops, for not ordering the King's Declaration for liberty of conscience to be read in the churches in their respective dioceses, is thus given by Sir John Reresby.—" And now (June 8th) seven of the Bishops made their appearance before the King in Council, where they were commanded to enter into recognizances of five hundred pounds a man, to answer to an information to be brought against them the next term, for disobedience to the King's orders. This they refused to do, saying, they were not to engage themselves under any security of the kind, till the information or indictment was found, and that by so doing they should not only run counter to the law, but betray the liberty of the Peerage; upon which the Archbishop of Canterbury and his six brethren were committed prisoners to the Tower, a severity most deeply resented by the whole Church. Being then at Whitehall, I saw the Bishops going to take water for the Tower. They all looked very

and all received the sacrament together on Sunday last.

The regiments intended for the encampment have been most of them drawn up, some one time in the Hyde Park, where the King took a view of them to his great satisfaction to see them so well appointed and disciplined, and are quartered in the adjacent countries, that they may be in a readiness to meet when his Majesty shall be pleased to appoint; but the weather hath been hitherto so unseasonable, that there are only some sent in the mean time to keep guard, who are relieved by others every day.

We have not heard of any indisposition that has attended the Prince since the fit he had on the 11th, of which there was more fear than danger; and he is certainly at present as lusty and vigorous as can be desired. He is, it is

cheerful, and the Bishop of Chichester, in particular, called to me, and asked me how I did." The names of the Bishops imprisoned were, Sancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury; Lloyd, Bishop of St. Asaph; Kenn, Bishop of Bath and Wells; Turner, Bishop of Ely; Lake, Bishop of Chichester; White, Bishop of Peterborough; and Trelawney, Bishop of Bristol.

said, to be brought up by hand, and upon that account has two day nurses, Madam Bady and Mrs. Royere; four rockers, Mrs. Lantz, Mrs. Chapple, Mrs. Walgrave, and Mrs. Syms; Mrs. Chilton, laundress and sempstress; Mr. Lany and Mr. Catismind, pages of the back stairs, who are all sworn in their offices.

Sir Herbert Crofts,* Lord Bishop of Hereford, having with others† submitted to the

* Herbert Croft had been educated in the Roman Catholic religion, but was converted to Protestantism by Morton Bishop of Durham. He was made Bishop of Hereford in 1661, and died in 1691. He appears to have been a well-intentioned man, though upon the present occasion he yielded too much to the suggestions of the Court. His book was entitled, "A short Discourse concerning the reading his Majesty's late Declaration in churches." It was shown to James, who ordered so much of it as related to the reading of the Declaration to be published, and the rest to be suppressed, as being contrary to the intentions with which that Declaration had been set forth.

† "The Bishops of Durham and Rochester, both Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and two others (Barlow of Lincoln, and Croft of Hereford) caused the Declaration to be read in their dioceses. But it generally happened wherever it was read, that the congregation immediately left the Church. One minister, before he began to read it, told his flock, 'that

orders of his Majesty, in sending to their clergy to read the Declaration in his diocese, hath, in justification of his proceedings, put forth in print the reasons that induced him to it.

What will be the issue of the contest about the Electorship of Cologne, we are yet to expect, which it is to be feared may cause some embroils; since it is of very great advantage to that side that can secure it to one in their pay. But if this fails them, yet another thing that, (though it looks less,) if not timely prevented, may be cause enough to bring on a quarrel; and that is the business (with which they have been formerly acquainted) of the Count of Solmes, touching which the Governor of the Spanish Netherlands sent a letter to the States-General, and with it a letter from Monsieur de Louvois to Monsieur del Val, containing some threats, in case the Council of Brabant will not

he could not refuse the order sent him to read the Declaration, but that he knew no order which obliged them to hear it.' In London it was read but in four or five churches."—Rapin.

recall their proceedings relating to that Count, in his pretensions to the Lordships of Doest Ebinberquoy.

All things make for good to the Imperialists, who, though fallen much short in their account by the thinness of their recruits, have an accession of 8000 of the Transylvanians. Besides that, since the strangling Joson Bassa, the Turks, who, joining under his conduct, might have made a considerable force, do now turn their swords upon one another, leaving to the Imperialists to profit upon their confusions. There is a confirmation of the advice, that the mutineers at Croostade, who withstood the surrender of that garrison to the Imperialists, were by Prince Abaffi reduced, the chief hanged, and others severely punished.

From Paris, dated 16th, is given a fair prospect of an accommodation with Rome; for that Monsieur de Talon, the Advocate General, desiring leave of the King to put pen to an answer to what was writ at Rome, in confutation of what he had done relating to the

Franchises,* the King forbade him, as unwilling to have the difference made wider.

On the 14th, the ships formerly mentioned were still in the Downs, under the command of Sir Roger Strickland.

* The Ambassadors of European monarchs at Rome had formerly exercised the right of affording an asylum not only in their own houses, but also in the quarters of the town in which they lived, to any malefactors who might choose to take refuge there. This preposterous custom caused every kind of disorder and outrage to be committed with impunity, and in consequence, Innocent the Eleventh requested of the different Sovereigns that it might be given up. All consented with the exception of the haughty and ill-judging Lewis, who answered, "That he had never regulated himself by what was done by others, but that he considered it was himself who ought to be looked to as an example!"—"He sent to Rome, in November 1685, the Marquis de Lavardin, as Ambassador, in order to brave the Pope. Lavardin entered Rome, in spite of the orders of the Pontiff to the contrary, escorted by four hundred guards of the marine, by four hundred officers volunteers, and by two hundred men bearing his livery, all armed. He took possession of his palace, of his quarter, and of the church of St. Lewis, round all which he placed sentinels, and kept them guarded as in a warlike fortification. The Pope is the only sovereign to whom such an embassy could be sent; for the superiority he affects over crowned heads, always gives them the wish to humble him;

As soon as her Majesty shall be in condition to remove, the Court, it is said, will go to Windsor, and his Royal Highness the Prince will be sent to Richmond.

The 15th being the first day of the term, a motion was made at the King's Bench bar by the Attorney General, that the Bishops sent to the Tower might, by *habeas corpus*, be brought thither to answer to what should be objected against them; which being granted, they were brought thither, and an information exhibited against each of them. The counsel of the Bishops were Sir Francis Pemberton,* Sir Robert

and the feebleness of his territory enables them always to insult him with impunity. All that Innocent the Eleventh could do, was to make use against the Marquis de Lavardin of the worn-out arms of excommunication."—*Voltaire's Siècle de Louis Quatorze.*

* Pemberton had been at different times a puisnè judge, and Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and King's Bench; from the latter he was removed shortly after Lord Russell's trial, upon which occasion he was thought by the Court not to have charged with sufficient violence against the prisoner. "After this removal," says Roger North, "he returned to his practice, and by that, as it seems the rule is, he lost his style of Lordship, and became bare Mr. Serjeant again." North

Sawyer, Mr. Pollexfen,* and Mr. Finch,† who, having desired a copy of the information, which was granted, and offered other points which were over-ruled in Court, the result, after some hours debate, was, that the Bishops were all

adds, "that he was a better practiser than a judge." Burnet gives the following account of him: "Pemberton's rise was so particular, that it is worth the being remembered. In his youth he mixed with such lewd company, that he quickly spent all he had, and ran so deep in debt, that he was cast into a gaol, where he lay many years: But he followed his studies so close in the gaol, that he became one of the ablest men of his profession. He was not wholly for the Court: he had been a judge before, and was turned out by Scroggs's means: And now (1681) he was raised again, and was afterwards made Chief Justice of the other Bench. But not being compliant enough, he was turned out a second time, when the Court would be served by none but by men of thorough-paced obsequiousness."

* Burnet calls him "an honest and learned, but a perplexed lawyer." He was one of the counsel employed by the City, in conjunction with Treby, to argue in favour of their charter before the Court of King's Bench, in 1682.

† Heneage Finch, second son of Heneage first Earl of Nottingham. He was created Baron of Guernsey by Queen Anne, and Earl of Aylesford by George the First. He distinguished himself greatly by his defence of the seven Bishops.

set at liberty, upon giving each his own recognizance—the Archbishop in 200*l.*, the others each in an 100*l.* to stand trial that day fortnight.

It is confirmed that General Caraffa had laid before Lippa, and was raising batteries against it; but that General Caprara was not so forward in attacking Illosk, wanting necessaries to carry it on, which, however, were dispatching with the greatest diligence. They were sending to Esseck boats and other materials to make a bridge of boats for the carrying over their army as they should find occasion; and for the better carrying on the work, the Pope's Nuncio had paid in 100$^{m\cdot}$ florins to the Treasurer at War, out of the monies of the Pope's subsidies, which he had in his hand. General Feasher had no sooner marched off the regiment of Saxe Lauembergh towards Buda, than the Turks of Warradin, though without effect, made an attempt to bring the City of Debereim under contribution.

The French letters tell us, they have been under a mistake in their guess of the author

of the treatise in refutation of Monsieur Talon, who they hitherto thought had been Monsieur Genege, auditor to the Pope's Nuncio in England, but now they are satisfied that it was Monsieur Arnauld.* There is great expectation at present of the election of the Elector of Cologne, of which they seem assured from the march of the French forces, under the Messieurs Bouflers† and Catinat,‡ and the dispositions of those in the garrisons of Bonne, Liege, &c.

(No address on this letter.)

* Anthony Arnauld, commonly called the great Arnauld, of a family illustrious alike for their talents and their virtues, but of which he himself has ever been considered the most conspicuous ornament. He was the apostle of Jansenism, and the Jesuits did all they could to add to his other titles that of Martyr. The vicissitudes of his admirable and useful career are well known. It does not appear that he ever wrote any work upon the subject of the Franchises, as the text supposes. He expired in the arms of the Pere Quesnel, at the age of eighty-three, August 8th, 1694.

† Lewis Francis, Duke de Boufflers, Marshal of France in 1693. Died 1711. He was a brave and able commander.

‡ Nicholas de Catinat, Marshal of France. He commanded the armies of his native country with great distinction and

CXXXII.

12th June, 1688.

DEAR SIR,

IN return of all your favours from thence, I can send you now the joyful news of a Prince of Wales; God continue it to us! It is a brave lusty boy, and like to live. Nothing but this happy incident could have jostled that of the Bishops so soon out of our thoughts; what will become of them, I know not. Thanks for yours of the 1st.

For John Ellis, Esq. Secretary for the
Revenue at Dublin.

CXXXIII.

The Bishops released from the Tower upon bail.

16th June, 1688.

SIR,

I HAVE your favour of the 7th, and took care of the inclosed from Lord Longford,

success; and was perhaps, in point of talent, the first of Lewis the Fourteenth's generals, after the death of Condé and Turenne.

and that to Sir Stephen Fox was delivered as soon as I received it. I borrowed one of Muddyman's for you, thinking it might have had more than I find in it about the Bishops, but must refer you to Mercurius Spence, who promised to send you a taste this night. I saw copies of his about the coffee-houses, which are somewhat particular: how the Bishops were brought up by a *habeas corpus*, returnable *immediate*, and yet the Bishops counsel (who are named in the inclosed) objected against the commitment, for that it was not in form of an Order of Council, but of an ordinary warrant signed by several Lords: how they objected, in the next place, against the legality of it, for that seven peers were committed to prison (and that the Tower) for an ordinary misdemeanour, which at most could be supposed but tending to a breach of the peace; but that these two objections were over-ruled by the Court: in the third place, the information being read, the Bishops would have excused their pleading to it *instanter*, but that in this they were refuted

by the practice of the Court, of twelve years standing at least; and Serjeant Pemberton, Sir Robert Sawyer, and Mr. Finch, (who were of counsel for the Bishops,) were the first after Scroggs that had brought in that practice; and this was also over-ruled: a plea given in by their Lordships in writing was also rejected as frivolous, and as a repetition of what had been delivered and pressed *ore tenus:* then the Bishops pleaded in chief not guilty, and are to have their trial the 29th; and so being bailed in 100*l.* each, were dismissed to lie in their own beds last night.

Pray let Mr. Melvill know I have his of the 4th, and took care of his inclosed; it came with yours of the 7th but yesterday.

Mr. Ellis and Mr. Melvill.

CXXXIV.

Foreign news.—Trials at Westminster.—Nathaniel Hooke delivers himself up.

London, June 21st, 1688.

SIR,

THOUGH, as we hinted in our last, the report be common about the town, and wagers laid upon it, that the most Christian King is in great danger of his life, if not already dead, yet there is great reason to believe that all this is but surmise; since the French letters of the 1st, 9th, 13th, and 16th, left that King in good health, at least in not such apparent danger, only it is certainly known that he had long fits of his ague, which was turned into the gout, and settled in both his legs. Other letters from private hands there are, that say the doors of Versailles were locked up, that melancholy lay upon the face of one half of the courtiers, and that it was much apprehended that they there might also take their turn, and share in the house of mourning.

The last German letters say, the Duke of

Lorrain was relapsed, and that there was no likelihood of his going to the campaign before the latter end of June or beginning of July.

Some letters do positively say, that there are some troops of the Elector of Brandenbourg* in march towards Cologne, and that they are to be followed by others from several Princes of Germany; but it is hard to believe it, since the French King hath declared at Ratisbonne and the Hague, that if any troops march that way to intimidate, or any way influence the elections and competitions now on foot, he will look upon it as a breach of the truce, and will take his measures accordingly; yet it is certainly reported that the French troops, formerly mentioned, are in their march that way.

Though the world believes the first design of the Imperialists will be upon Belgrade,† yet they that know how matters stand in those

* Frederic, afterwards the first King of Prussia. He had succeeded his father, the great Elector, April 29th, 1688.

† Belgrade was taken by assault by the Imperial troops, under the command of the Elector of Bavaria, on the 6th of September of this year.

parts, think the Imperialists will content themselves with lesser gain, such as the blocking up two or three remaining places in Hungary, and the driving out those few straggling Turks that are left.

On the 19th was a trial at Westminster Hall between the Earl of Lincoln* and several pawnbrokers, who had received divers parcels of his goods that had been stolen. The Earl indicted them upon an action of conspiracy with the thieves; and upon hearing of the matter, the Court was very ill satisfied with those sorts of cattle, called pawnbrokers, *alias* receivers of stolen goods, and declared them to be one of the blemishes of the Government.

The cause which long depended between Sir John Witham and Sir Richard Dutton† was all heard. It is about false imprisonment in the Barbadoes, wherewith Sir Richard Dutton

* Edward (Clinton) fifth Earl of Lincoln. He died in 1692.

† Sir Richard Dutton had succeeded Sir Jonathan Atkins as Governor of Barbadoes in 1680, and continued to hold that office till 1689.

is charged, but hath not yet received its determination.

The complaint was also renewed by the prisoners at the King's Bench against the exactions of their Marshal, which referred to the examination of Sir Samuel Astrey. Upon a view of the prisoners taken by Mr. Ellis,* the new Marshal, they were found to be about 770 in number.

On the 20th, Mr. Justice Holloway delivered the charge to the Grand Jury at Westminster; and, amongst other things, recommended to them a strict observing of the Sabbath, declaring that though his Majesty had granted a toleration in favour of tender consciences, yet that none was ever intended in favour of atheism, irreligion, and profaneness. He took notice also to the jury (whereof there were several Justices of the Peace) of an error frequently committed by them, which is the bailing people committed for murder and manslaughter.

* Samuel Ellis, the brother of John Ellis, to whom this letter is addressed.

He told them likewise, that in obedience to his Majesty's command, he was to acquaint them that there would be a Parliament in November at farthest. He said, he doubted not but they (meaning the jury, and all that heard him) would behave themselves like honest men and loyal subjects; but, without entering into particulars, he took leave to refer them for the rest to the King's Declaration.

A commission is said to be granted for the inspecting of all the gaols and prisons of England.

Nathaniel Hook, the late Duke of Monmouth's chaplain, who was concerned in the rebellion, and hath ever since skulked up and down without being able to obtain his pardon, threw himself lately at his Majesty's feet, desiring his Majesty's pardon, or to be speedily tried and executed, since now life itself, as well as the sense of his guilt, was wearisome to him: whereupon his Majesty thought fit to extend his gracious pardon to him.

Mr. Sheridan's case in Ireland is heard and reported, how favourable for him we cannot

tell; but it is said he has leave to come for England, and is expected here very suddenly.

We hear no more of the French fleet, which is said to be gone towards Algiers, though the report of the town will have it, that a party of them has appeared in our Channel. The Dutch fleet remains still upon their own coast, though a party of them are said to sail by, and their chief design seems to be, next to watching of their neighbours' motions, to curb and keep off the insolences of the Algerians.*

CXXXV.

Trials.—Samuel Ellis made Marshal of the King's Bench.—Affairs of Oxford.—Zulestein arrived.

London, June 23rd, 1688.

SIR,

ONE Dyker, a notorious kidnapper, who hath long followed that trade of spiriting away

* The foregoing letter is one of the numerous "News letters" in this collection. The address upon it is erased, which must have been done from fear of the hands into which it might fall. These news-letters appear to have taken some days in writing, and were probably, when finished, sent round to several persons like a newspaper.

his Majesty's subjects, was at the long-run caught, and brought to his trial at the King's Bench bar, where he was fined but four nobles, by reason of his poverty, but is to make it up by standing in the pillory before the office in Cornhill for binding of servants for the Plantations, and to be whipped thence to Aldgate.

One Cooper, a silk-stocking merchant, bound over to appear at the King's Bench bar, to answer to an information for favouring of clippers, by putting off clipt money, is supposed to be run away, and to have left his bail of 2500*l.* in the lurch.

One Mr. Samuel Ellis, brother to the Bishop *in partibus** of that name, is made Marshal of the King's Bench, and applies himself to regulate the disorders and abuses of that prison; and in order to it, hath proposed a table of fees to be set up; all the complaints having hitherto happened by the excessive demands there. Finding the same mutinous spirit among them, he ordered one of the prisoners, who is called their captain, to be more nar-

* Philip Ellis.

rowly locked up, but the gaol cried one and all, and were for forcing the locks. The Court of King's Bench took cognizance of it yesterday, and severely reprimanded the mutineers.

The debate touching Mr. Southwell, and the mean profits of the said office, is put off to a farther argument.

The report hath been common these three or four days, that a French squadron is arrived in the Downs to join ours, which still rides there, about twenty-two frigates, besides fire-ships, and orders are given to equip more with all speed, and to that end all the Commissioners of the navy are gone down to Chatham; but I do not find the said report to be true.

The report likewise of the French King's death is vanished away; though a French merchant on the Exchange is said to have the confidence to have given twenty guineas to insure three hundred if it be not true; but this may be the effect of a French rashness, and of what he and others wish, more than any certain intelligence.

The *Quo Warranto* against the University of Oxford was pleaded last Friday, but the same is put off till the next term, and Dr. Wallis* and Dr. Holton the Procurator of the University are returned home.

The Vice Chancellor† is somewhat indisposed, but is said to have ordered verses to be made by the University upon the birth of the Prince of Wales.

Dr. Gifford,‡ the President of Magdalen, sent to visit the Vice Chancellor, and to let him know he was desirous of waiting on him, but was answered by the same messenger that he did not desire the favour of his acquaintance.

A certain newsmonger of Fuller's Rents says, the Lord Chancellor was *incognito* to visit the Archbishop at Lambeth; for the truth whereof let him answer.

* Dr. John Wallis, the celebrated mathematician, and Savilian Professor of Geometry in the University of Oxford.

† Of Oxford. His name was Gilbert Ironside, D.D. Warden of Wadham College.

‡ Parker, who had been appointed by the King, President of Magdalen College, had died March 20th, 1688. The

Mynheer Zulystein* is arrived to compliment their Majesties upon the birth† of the Prince, from the Prince and Princess of Orange.

Dr. Hawkins is turned out of the Tower, and the chapel there is shut up, for his not reading the Declaration; but the Doctor, having bought a freehold in his house, intends to try it at law with Sir Edward Hales, the Lieutenant.

Among other Policies of Assurance which appear at the Exchange, there is one of no ordinary nature; which is, that Esqr Neale, who hath for some time been a suitor to the rich Welsh Widow Floyd, offers as many guineas

King had therefore sent another mandate to the Fellows to elect Bonaventure Gifford, a Doctor of the Sorbonne. Gifford took possession on the 15th of June.

* William Henry de Zulestein de Nassau, an illegitimate cousin of King William, who in 1695 created him Earl of Rochford, Viscount Tunbridge, and Baron of Enfield. He died at his lordship of Zulestein in Holland, in 1708.

† "The Prince and Princess of Orange," says Burnet, "received the news of this birth very decently. They sent over Zulestein to congratulate: and the Princess ordered the Prince of Wales to be prayed for in her chapel."

as people will take to ensure thirty for each one, in case he marry the said widow. He hath already laid out as much as will bring him in 10 or 12,000 guineas; he intends to make it 30,000, and then to present it to the lady in case she marry him; and any one that will accept of guineas on that condition, may find as many as he pleases at Garraway's Coffee House.

For John Mey,* Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners for the Revenue of Ireland, at Dublin.

CXXXVI.

French King's death reported.

23d June, 1688.

SIR,

I HAVE none of yours since that I acknowledged this day sevennight. I am told Mr. She-

* Several of the News-letters, of which this is one, are thus directed. It appears to be only a feigned name, used instead of the real one of Ellis.

ridan is in town, but doth not appear at Court. The report of the French King's death is over again, though the generality will not believe it. I know nothing of the certainty of a French squadron being in the Downs. Judge Holloway, in his charge to the jury at Westminster, said there would be a Parliament at farthest in November next. One Curthop, Commissioner of the Alienation Office, shot himself in the head last night. The Queen and Prince are in good health. Mo^{r}. Zulysteyn is come to compliment from the Hague.

No address on this Letter.

CXXXVII.

The seven Bishops and their Counsel.—Court news.—Foreign rumours.

London, June 25th, 1688.

SIR,

Last Friday one Curthopp, one of the Commissioners for the Alienation Office, was found dead in his chamber in the Temple,

having shot himself in the head with a pistol, which was found in one hand, and a subpœna in or near the other, at the suit of Baron Jenner, who is said to be creditor to the deceased in 200*l.*; and upon that account the Baron is said to have applied himself to his Majesty, and to have begged the defunct's place and office for his son, who will likely carry it, if his age and inexperience stand not in his way.

We are told from Dublin that the Lord-Lieutenant there gave all demonstrations of joy upon the birth of the young Prince, and had conferred the honour of knighthood upon Captain Bridges, who brought thither the first news; that *Te Deum* was sung with the greatest pomp, and that the Lord Mayor of Dublin had showed public marks of the loyalty and affection of that city upon this happy occasion by feasting and bonfires, &c.

Yesterday four of the seven Bishops were at Sir Samuel Astrey's* house, to agree the pa-

* "I was told that this morning the Lord Chancellor had carried Sir Samuel Astry to the King; it was privately sus-

nel of the jury who are to try their Lordships next Friday. The return was made by the Sheriff of 48, of which those for the King chose 12, and the Lords, Sir Roger Langley, and the next is Sir John Berry, &c.

The Queen is in good health, and hath been up some days, and played yesterday at cards most of the afternoon. His Majesty hunted all day in Waltham Forest, and dined at Sir Eliab Harvey's. The young Prince is also in good health, and eats and sleeps heartily.

The Court begins to prepare for Windsor. The report of its going to the Bath is contradicted.

His Majesty hath farmed his revenue of tin to four farmers, who are Sir Thomas Griffith, Alderman Hartopp, Captain Kelke the pewterer, and Mr. Holt.

Serjeant Levinz* is said to have denied to be

pected to be about the Bishops' trial, he being the person that is to strike the Jury." Diary of Henry, Lord Clarendon, June 21st, 1688.

* Sir Creswell Levinz had been Attorney-general in 1679,

of Counsel for the Bishops: we know not yet the reason of it. A great many noblemen are lately come up to town: some say the King sent for them about a weighty business; others say they are come as thinking themselves concerned as to the point of peerage, to be present at the trial of the Bishops.*

The Gazette gives an account of the lamentable destruction at Naples; it having pleased God to smite the other corner of the Spanish monarchy with earthquakes and the ruin of the chiefest part of that city.

The Spanish Ambassador at Rome sets up

and was succeeded in that office by Sir Robert Sawyer. He did not refuse to be one of the Bishops' counsel, but acted in that capacity, as appears by the letter which follows this. Roger North, in his *Examen*, says of him, "His genius was not above a pleader, and in self-concerns wonderfully cautelous." At the Revolution, he was appointed, with some others, by the Convention, to direct that assembly in matters of law. He died in 1700.

* Reresby says, "Twenty-one of the very prime of the nobility appeared at the King's Bench to bail the Bishops." And Lord Clarendon in his Diary remarks, that, "There were five or six-and-twenty noblemen in court all the time of the trial."

his pretensions to the Franchises, which he did not renounce but upon condition the French would do the same; and hath sent to tell the constables and officers of justice, he will hang them if they tread within his quarters.

The Germans bewail their misfortune much that the Duke of Lorraine is relapsed now at this time that all the Turks are drawn out of Belgrade, and gone to quench the rebellion of Yeghen Pacha at Sophia.

The Pachas of Candia and Cania are said to be revolted, and to have run over to the Venetians, who have fallen upon Thessalonica and pillaged it, finding there good booty, by the number of Jews who were got thither and mingled with the Turks.

The Dutch letters of the 9th say, that a strong party of the States, twenty-nine troops, were ordered to march towards Maestricht, to change that garrison as was pretended, though the French Ambassador suspected it was to join some of the Elector of Brandenburg's troops about Cleeves, to cover that country now that

the French forces are hovering thereabouts. It is certain that Monsieur Boufflers has orders to follow the directions of the French Ambassador at the Hague, and to march when he tells them it is time, and gives him the word of command.

The French King gave audience to all the Public Ministers the $\frac{18}{28}$th. The joy of the French Court upon the birth of the Prince of Wales was *inexpressible*.

For John Mey, Esq. Secretary to the
Commissioners for the Revenue of
Ireland, at Dublin.

END OF VOL. I.

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